

NOVEMBER 2004 - ISSUE 2

Mouth of the RIVER

OYSTER RIVER HIGH SCHOOL - 55 COE DRIVE - DURHAM, NH - 03824





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Mouth of the River
Oyster River High School
55 Coe Drive
Durham, NH 03824



What the rest of the school thinks about:

...The Class of 2005...



“The senior class is immature and loud....they should go back to kindergarten.”
-Antonina Minko

Azziza BenSaid
Newswriter

Big and bulky, the seniors tower over the immature and seemingly insignificant freshmen. They hold their stance and block the paths of the nervous underclassmen. They demand respect, the classrooms, and the halls of Oyster River High School are the hunting ground for the power-hungry senior class... or so it seems.

Here we are in this place in our lives called high school. We work hard, we play harder, and as upperclassmen, we are finally reaching the pinnacle of our high school careers. The senior class is that much closer to the climax of high school: graduation. The final culmination of all the hard work, all the late nights and all the early mornings. After all the last minute studying, note taking, and procrastination, the senior class is less than one hundred and eighty days away from the end of the beginning. They are that much closer to breaking out of this place we all love to hate: Oyster River High School.

This year's senior class has set the rules straight from the beginning; they have taught the rest of us to fear them. (So much so that many underclassmen refused to comment on this year's senior class) The class of 2005 has demanded respect from the rest of the school, yes- both students and faculty. As junior Katie Ayers puts it, the senior class is just, “so hot right now.”

The senior class is just,
“So hot right now.”
- Katie Ayers

Phil Carter, a junior, explains that this year's senior class is simply, “a bunch of renegade duffers fighting against a power hungry administration.” To many it may seem as though the administration is out to get the seniors, just as to many underclassmen, it may seem as

though the seniors are out to get them. However, according to senior Jamie Farrell, the class of '05 is “the chilliest class ever,” and they are not out to hunt down the freshmen, or the underclassmen. All they want is a little respect.

As for the, “power hungry administration,” which Farrell believes just needs to, “chill out,” Principal Lafferty revealed his belief that this year's senior class has “the potential to be one of the better senior classes.” Lafferty continued to attribute this to the fact that the class of 2005 consists of amazing people and outstanding leaders.

Yet the controversy remains: does this year's senior class deserve the bad rep it has built up for itself? Are they really a “power-hungry” group of kids who are more than just overprotective of their parking spaces and free periods? Freshman Josh Handlesman, claims he “loves the senior class,” and that they are his “role models,” regardless of the fact that he also mentioned he doesn't personally know any seniors.

Antonina Minko, a junior, claims that the members of this year's senior class are far from role models. She confidently stated that they are, “Immature and loud.” She laughed continuing to explain that they should “go back to kindergarten.” Senior Ben Johnson surprisingly agreed with Minko's opinion saying that “we really aren't that great, we just say we are.”

Sophomore Eds Harding has the opposite opinion, and believes that the class of 2005 makes “excellent” contributions to the school, and that the only people who should be afraid of them are “those who ripped down their banner at the pep rally.” Harding believes that overall the senior class is a bunch of “fun kids.” Freshman Lee-Anne Pullar agrees with Harding, saying that although she does feel intimidated walking by a group of seniors, she still thinks that they are a phenomenal class.

Love them or hate them, the senior class is here to stay until the 10th of June. As senior Sean McClean put it, “There will never be another class like the class of 2005. End of an era baby.”



Senior Skip Days!

Sophie Valena
NewsWriter

You drove to school on October 12 with a heavy heart. As a senior, you had planned to take full advantage of the senior skip days organized by your fellow classmates. As sticky notes stating the skip plan circulated the school, you began to imagine a fun-filled day spent with your classmates where school rules did not apply. Unfortunately, when the day rolled around, a fifth day tacked on to a four day weekend, you had too much going on to miss a day. Expecting to leave your car in an empty lot that morning, you were surprised to see plenty of seniors parking and trudging off to their first period classes. What happened?

As it turned out, 2005's first senior skip day had a very low participation rate. According to the front office, about 20% of the senior class was absent on

October 12. "I figured more people would be gone," said Kelley Bingham, a senior who was in school on October 12. Many have attributed this to sports commitments. "I would have liked to skip," said Senior Lindsay Sullivan, "but you can't if you play a sport."

The cold rainy weather was also a possible deterrent, as it limited activities. "I felt bad that it rained that day," said Principal Don Lafferty, who then cracked a smile and said, "OK, no I didn't."

According to senior accounts, most students who skipped kept to themselves; choosing to hang out with friends, watch TV, or catch up on schoolwork rather than organize a class activity. "I slept in, went to the Bagelry, saw a friend before they went back to college, and then went home and did six hours of homework," said one anonymous senior.

Although senior skip days are supposed to be fun, the ORHS faculty is not laughing. "People miss enough school days as it is without skipping," said Assistant Principal Sara Wotton. Another concern that she had was the peer pressure involved in skipping. "Some kids who are maybe in jeopardy of failing a class are pressured by their peers to skip a day." While she doesn't consider missing a day to be the end of the world for most, she believes that

seniors sometimes have a tendency to "get carried away" with absences.

Senior absence days are nothing new, according to Susan Smith. Smith, who has been a French teacher at ORHS for over 35 years, said that senior skip days have always happened "unofficially." Though some parts of the year are more critical than others, she believes that senior skip days often make teaching more difficult. "[It's especially hard in] senior classes because they work so often in groups, and if you have a group presentation and half the class is missing, it can mess up your timing."

Computer teacher Jo Dodge agreed that senior skip days can create a hardship for teachers, and sees no point to them. "I think of senior skip days as more of a prank, and most people don't need that encouragement to miss one more day of school. Usually, for kids who like to skip school, it's just



Seniors escaping the confinements of school...

another excuse. I think it's irresponsible."

Principal Don Lafferty is more concerned with the hazards senior skip days can bring. "They're unchaperoned, disorganized, and sometimes involve chemical substances...Sooner or later someone's going to get hurt, and that scares me." As an alternative, Lafferty said he would be willing to have a school sanctioned activity for the entire senior class if they promised to not have any more skip days. "The seniors would be smart to get together and ask us if they could do something as a class. If you want that last hurrah, let's organize it!"

While there may have been a consensus among seniors that this skip day was disorganized, most agreed that their time away from school was well spent. Senior Anne Tregea, who was not in school on October 12, is glad that she skipped. "Was it a bust? Yes. Did anyone skip? No. Did I have a good day? Absolutely!"

Insane Cafeteria Prices!

Andrea Hammar
Contributing Writer

"Cafeteria food is *way* too expensive!" is a common refrain uttered from the mouths of students at Oyster River High School. "We get half as much food as last year, and now it costs more," moans Lydia Garnhart.

Anyone who purchases food in the ORHS cafeteria has noticed the price increase from last year. The daily special (which includes a small milk, fruit, and salad) was \$1.75 last year and now \$2.00. Salads, which were only \$.75 last year are now over \$2.00. Even the prices in the vending machine have increased.

So why have the cafeteria prices gone up? According to Oyster River Business Administrator Blaine Cox, the raise in cafeteria prices reflects the increase in food and labor costs. "The rise in fuel prices has made it more expensive to truck food, and more expensive for the farmers to fuel their tractors...there are just so many complications," he said. Apparently the school had a \$31,000 deficit in the cafeteria department last year. Since the cafeteria department is not funded by taxes, the only way to decrease the deficit was to increase the prices for food. "We hadn't upped the prices of food for over five years," stated Cox. "A change needed to be made."

Many students feel that they are not getting their money's worth when it comes to cafeteria food. Student Allen Latham commented, "Anywhere else \$2.00 would be a very reasonable price for a meal, but for the food here, it's not." Sophomore Katelyn Barton agreed with Latham and added, "I eat more chips and stuff because the special of the day is not worth the money."

The increase of cafeteria prices has not only affected students, it has greatly affected teachers as well. The daily special has increased over the last year from \$2.35 to \$3.25, a more dramatic price increase than the prices for students.

"The staff and faculty had no input on this issue, to my knowledge," said Assistant Principal Dave Evans. "If anyone has a right to complain about the food prices, it's the teachers," he added.

And apparently the teachers do complain. Math teacher William Reeves commented, "I didn't even know the cafeteria prices went up until I heard another teacher whining about it." The cafeteria staff and Evans admit that they have listened to a lot of griping from the faculty.

The students who find themselves unaffected by

Please see next page...



Block Scheduling... What's it all about anyways?

Azziza BenSaid
Newswriter

Tick-tock-tick-tock. You can almost hear the tick of the minute hand going by painfully slow on those identical clocks that hang above the doors of each classroom at Oyster River High School. You can taste the anticipation and feel the boredom hanging in the air. The teacher's bland lecture voice has turned into a foreign language, and you notice a small amount of drool hanging from your mouth as your head rests sideways on your desk. The kid in front of you is loudly snoring, and the teacher is just about to give up even trying when finally, the bell rings! But no, it's not the end of class, simply an annoying reminder that today is a block scheduling day... your class is hardly half done.

On the more positive note, the art classroom across the hall is finally able to complete a project in one day without the completely unneeded interruption of going to six other classes a day. And your chemistry lab can finally occur without the hassle of cleaning up half way through just to set up and do the same procedure all over again the next day. Having only three or four classes a day has its obvious benefits. Less homework, therefore less stress, therefore, more fun.

Vice Principal Dave Evans acknowledges that block scheduling does not work for everyone. "It's the kind of thing where one person can make it miserable for the rest of the students in the class." Evans explained, continuing to mention that like everything, block scheduling has, "its good and its bad points."

In order to satisfy more people, the administration implemented a plan which called for block scheduling, but only every other week, and only two days a week. Junior Kay Dallon would prefer to have a full week of block scheduling every other week, as opposed to only two days a week, "that way I can get into the swing of things," she explained merrily continuing to confess her love for the lacking amounts of excessive homework she gets nightly on a normal schedule.

Nate Gross, a junior, admits he has much more free time after school during block scheduling weeks than on normal weeks. "Having so much free time after school is just like, ahh!" Gross grinned widely as he explained that he can finish the majority of

his homework during his free period, which in turn allows him time to participate in extra curricular activities after school, such as senate and prom committee.

Emily Anderson, a part time student at Oyster River High School comments, "I don't even go to school there and it still ruins my life!" Anderson believes that excessive amount of class time simply leads to endless boredom, and in turn, wasted time. Dan Sharbaugh, a senior agrees with Anderson, "Block scheduling is pointless it just keeps us in the same class longer."

Many students like sophomore Lauren Anderson enjoy block scheduling for the most part but are confused as to what happens on Wednesdays that do not have early release. Everyone knows about *just read*, that one part of the day in school where you can actually get in trouble for doing your homework. And then there are the motivational speakers and senate forums. And so the, "wasted time," just drags on, encouraging some students to convince their parents to let them out of school for, "doctors appointments" and, "family emergencies."

But what if there were something in that extra hour and a half of school two Wednesdays a month that actually made students enjoy the time? What if team practices could start at 1:00, or clubs could meet then? What if we had intramural sports at Oyster River which practiced then? According to Mr. Evans the chances of any of these things actually happening are slim. Thanks to New Hampshire state law, we have to be seated in desks, *yes actually learning*, for 1080 hours a year in order to be counted as an accredited public school. Apparently, intramural sports and team practices don't quite cut it.

The next time you're drifting off during your hour and a half long math class, or doodling aimlessly all over your Mythology binder, just try to see the positive light. Maybe that art class you're taking next semester will be just that much better because of those hour and a half long periods, and maybe your math teacher will come up with an alternative to the overdone note taking method he does everyday. And finally you'll get out of school without the nagging thought of how much homework you *still* have to do, because hey, you finished it all during your free period. Maybe finally school can be done when the last bell rings, and after two thirty you can be free to do whatever you please.

"I don't even go to school there [ORHS] and it still ruins my life!"
-Emily Anderson

Cafeteria Prices Continued
from previous page...

this cafeteria crisis generally have views along the lines of "I don't care," "It's not great, but it doesn't really bother me," or "I bring my own lunch." Conversely, there are a select few students who feel that those who are angered by the raise in prices just need to "chill out." "Stop complaining, no one's forcing you to buy the food," said Liza Behrendt. "Bring your own *@!*&# lunch!"

According to Cox, the school shouldn't be seeing any more increases in the food prices anytime soon. Still, the prices are certainly not expected to go down either. Hopefully the school will adjust to the new pricing soon, and with a little optimism, we can look at the tray as half full, not half empty.



Upset about
ridiculous
cafeteria
prices?
Write a
letter to
the editor!

Senior Sarah
Taylor frowns at
the excessive
prices.



November 23, 2004

News

RIVER OF BLOOD

Chris
Bramante
Newswriter

Violence at Oyster River

A big, blond beast descends onto a lunch table with one goal in mind: nourishment. He salivates over a tray of goody lunchables, devouring, annihilating, voraciously guzzling down the blackened cow parts. If you are lucky enough to find his eyes when they are not shielded by aviator sunglasses you will see that they are brown. Whether he be wearing a hat that would be found on the top of a lumberjack's head or that of a cowboy, one cannot overlook the almighty Tor Harris.

At a recent pep rally the face of sophomore Zack Churchill was unfortunate to meet the unruly fists of the Russian giant known only as Tor. Tor was suspended for this action. The violence exacted upon Churchill as well as other sophomores by the senior class was an attempt of revenge. After the tug-of-war loss against the senior class, various sophomore boys charged and ripped down the large blue banner that read: SENIORS '05....We Came...We Saw...We Kicked Some A\$\$.

"Those kids needed to be regulated in a physical way," says Tor. And regulated they were. Churchill was punched in the face, Jeff Coburn had his shirt torn off of his chest and Eugene Kim was lifted up and thrown. "Putting kids in their place is totally different than hazing. There is a clear distinction but the administration can't see it," Tor said.

Is Oyster River violent compared to other schools? Former Oyster River student Max Hudson used to attend a school in the south where he said there were at least 2 or 3 fights a day. In one particular incident a student had his head

slammed onto a marble table and then had it stomped on. No punishment was given. OR senior John Laydon who used to attend Merrimack High School says, "There are never any fights [at OR]."

Officer Ed Levesque agrees that as far as violence goes among schools, "We are way below the norm. This school is one of the most tolerant I've ever seen."

According to the senior class president Alex Lamb. "There isn't a violence problem. There has been an exponential increase in punishment however because the administration has been with the current senior class for four years and is not as intimidated as they used to be."

The actions during the pep rally have led to controversy over whether pep rallies should even be held in the first place.

"We should still have more pep rallies," says Churchill. "The whole school shouldn't be punished for something a couple of kids did."

Towards the end of first quarter, freshmen and sophomores found their study hall periods a little more cramped than they used to be with the addition of some new faces. Well, these are not new faces; in fact, they are the oldest faces in the school, minus the adults. These are seniors being punished for the infamous stampede that took place in the sophomore hallway that will go down in history as the Bull Run.

After the Bull Run the senior class officers were informed that the entire senior class would lose free periods and possibly senior parking if the

select individuals who ran the bulls did not turn themselves in, and in an act of solidarity: they did.

In the year of 2002 seniors ran the bulls in freshmen hallway and there was no punishment. Why now? Mr. Lafferty said that at the time it wasn't reported...but where was the faculty?

"When I came to this school five years ago as the Athletic Director some teachers told me that they were afraid to walk down the halls," says Mrs. Carol Gephardt.

If teachers were too afraid to walk down the halls five years ago it is difficult to imagine how young students felt when the supervisors were absent in their protection.

"Teachers were hesitant to be hall monitors," says Mr. Lafferty. "I was amazed there weren't more fights."

Kids should not have to be scared to walk down the halls of their school be it from a

Bull Run, fights or murder hack (a variation of using a hackey sack where the losers get punched in the arm by every member in the game).

"I came home everyday freshman year with bruises on my arms," says Sean McLean on the topic of murder hack. "This year I don't see any freshmen with the same deal."

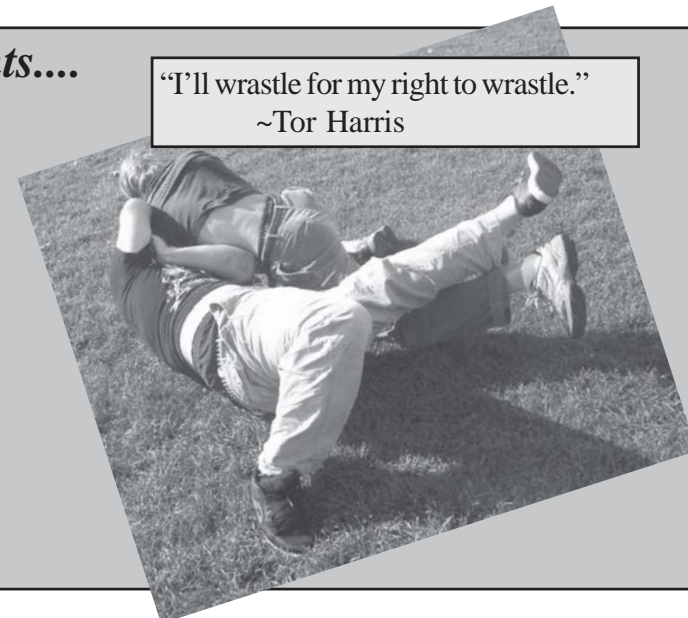
McLean's freshman year seniors were not placed into study halls, there was no mass punishment for the whole school, and it seemed to McLean as though the culprits of violence got away scot-free. Now, that has changed.

Is this Oyster River running red with blood? Is the new building anything less than a slaughterhouse? No...no, it's not. Be afraid. Be very afraid...not.

"There should be a class. I expect to see Advanced Placement Violence next year."
~Brad Nicholson

"...we don't have drugs anymore so we're forced to revert to violence."
~Adam Burke

A series of unfortunate events....



"I'll wrestle for my right to wrestle."
~Tor Harris

A pregnant goldfish is called a twit.

The Bible has been translated into Klingon.



Project SEARCH

...what is it?

Project SEARCH : Seminars for Advanced High School Students

Celie Harris

News writer

"Project SEARCH has introduced me to so many in-depth topics that I would have never found out about in my regular schooling. Ever since UNH Professor James Farrell introduced his seminar about political advertising, I have been completely inspired to pursue that field in college," exclaimed second year SEARCH student, Heather Burke.

Project SEARCH is a UNH seminar and group discussion series for talented, academically motivated and most importantly intellectually curious high school juniors and seniors. This on-campus program is not only mentally challenging for the students, but also serves as an experiential teacher training program for graduate students.

Sponsored by the Center for Education Field Services and the Educational Department at the University of New Hampshire, SEARCH works in cooperation with fourteen public high schools in Southeastern New Hampshire. SEARCH's main goal is to expose these Seacoast area high school students to a wide range of ideas through lectures, demonstrations, and debates. All meetings are held in the Memorial Union Building. After each presentation participants from the various schools meet in discussion groups of about 15 students, where the table is open to feedback, questions, and opinions about the day's seminar.

Some of this year's 12 scheduled topics include one of SEARCH's highest rated speakers from past years, Robert Rivest. Rivest's nationally acclaimed mime performances expose students to a rare form of art and the world's earliest means of communication. Through a series of age appropriate, comic, and dramatic mime pieces, Rivest explores life choices and how we relate to ourselves, each other, and the world around us.

Another speaker was Columbine survivor Craig Scott, who lost his sister and two best friends in the 1999 school shooting. After their deaths, Scott felt compelled to do something positive. An advocate of ending name-calling, bullying, and social ostracizing, he started an organization called Rachel's challenge to show students the painful scars that words can leave.

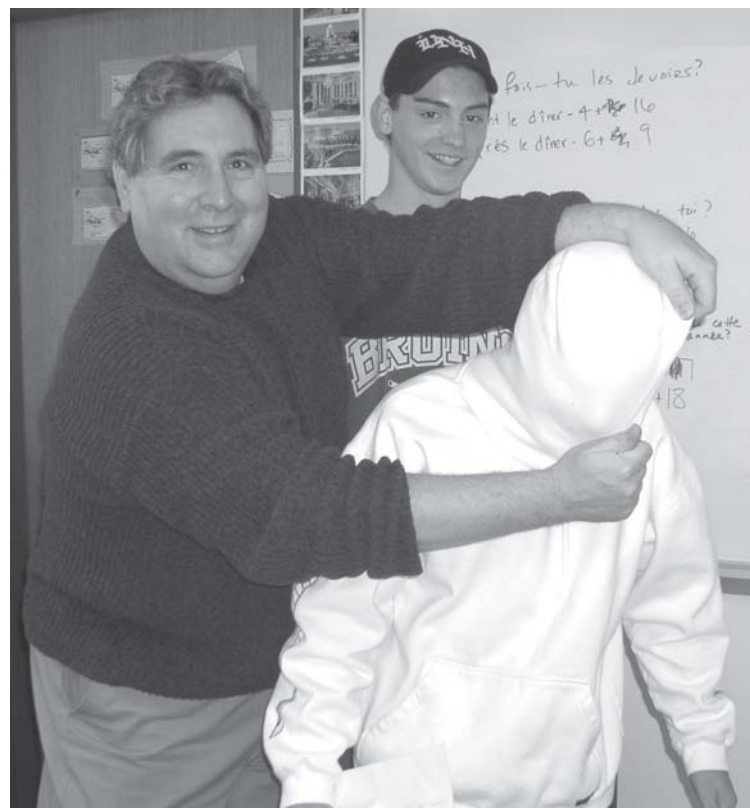
The Disclosure Project, yet another seminar topic, is a nonprofit research plan working to fully disclose the facts about UFO's, extraterrestrial intelligence, and classified advanced energy and propulsion systems. A UFO witness himself, researcher Ted Loder will share his personal familiarity with UFOs, as well as present stories and experiences held by over 400 other government, military, and intelligence witnesses.

Each SEARCH year is started off with a full day on the ropes course at camp Mi-Te-Na. "It is amazing to watch how the day's activities help make the group stronger and encourage students to work together as a team," commented group leader Kris Wright. The emphasis on building communication, cooperation, and trust among group members will be carried into the future group discussions. The fall semester concludes after 6 sessions (two Wednesdays every month). After a month break during the Christmas holidays, SEARCH's spring semester starts up again with another 6 seminars. SEARCH closes each year with a spring field trip to Boston for the day. Lunch at Faniel Hall and a new feature play every year is a great way to say good-bye to the close friends one can make through SEARCH.

How come you haven't heard of Project Search?

As odd as it may seem, the hometown Oyster River High School is not among the participating high schools that pay student tuition and attend project search as a group. Luckily, each year there are a few openings for outside individual students. Selected through applications and by showing interest in participation, these students from the nonparticipating schools also have to pay their own tuition of \$250. This year I am the only individual student from Oyster River. To me it is mind boggling that out of 800 kids that live in the same town as this wonderful program, I am outnumbered 300 to 1 by other students that travel at least one hour to get to each SEARCH seminar. The other schools commitment, even despite the distance obstacle, should show how outstanding this program is. Not only does Project SEARCH expose participants to intelligent, famous and passionate people who share first hand information about very interesting topics, it is also a positive addition to your college applications.

Monsieur Lord...isn't he the best French teacher ever?



Monsieur Stephen Lord was given the Teacher of Excellence Award by the New Hampshire Association of World Language Teachers



November 23, 2004

News

Weird but True State Laws...

Celie Harris

Newswriter

Alabama:

Putting salt on a railroad track may be punishable by death.

Alaska:
No child is to build a snow man taller than himself on school property. It is against the law to park your horse on city streets. It is okay to park your dog sled.

California:

Animals are banned from mating publicly within 1,500 feet of a tavern, school, or public place of worship. It is illegal to ride a bicycle in a swimming pool. No person shall hunt moths under street lights. Dogs and cats may not have sex without a permit.

Florida:

It is illegal for single, divorced, or widowed women to parachute on Sunday. No one may have sexual relations with a porcupine.

New Jersey:

No one may buy ice cream after 6 P.M. unless then have a written permission slip from a doctor. Any couple making out in a vehicle and accidentally sounding the horn during the lustful act may be taken to jail.

Kentucky:

It is illegal for a woman to appear in a bathing suit on a highway unless she is escorted by at least two police officers; armed with a club; lighter than 90 pounds or heavier than 200 pounds.

Illinois:

No one may speak English. The state language is "American." A couple may not have sex while fishing or hunting on their wedding day. No one may teach pets to smoke cigars. People who make "ugly faces" at dogs may be fined and/or jailed.

Louisiana:

Biting someone with one's natural teeth is considered assault, whereas biting someone with false teeth is aggravated assault. No one may gargle in public. It is illegal to rob a bank and shoot the teller with a water pistol. No one may wear an alligator costume.

Maine:

It is illegal for men to tickle women under the chin with feather duster.

Washington:
It is illegal to pretend that one's parents are rich.

New Hampshire:

It is illegal to sell the clothes one is wearing to pay off a gambling debt.



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Aubrey Gratton
Interior Design
Class of 2005

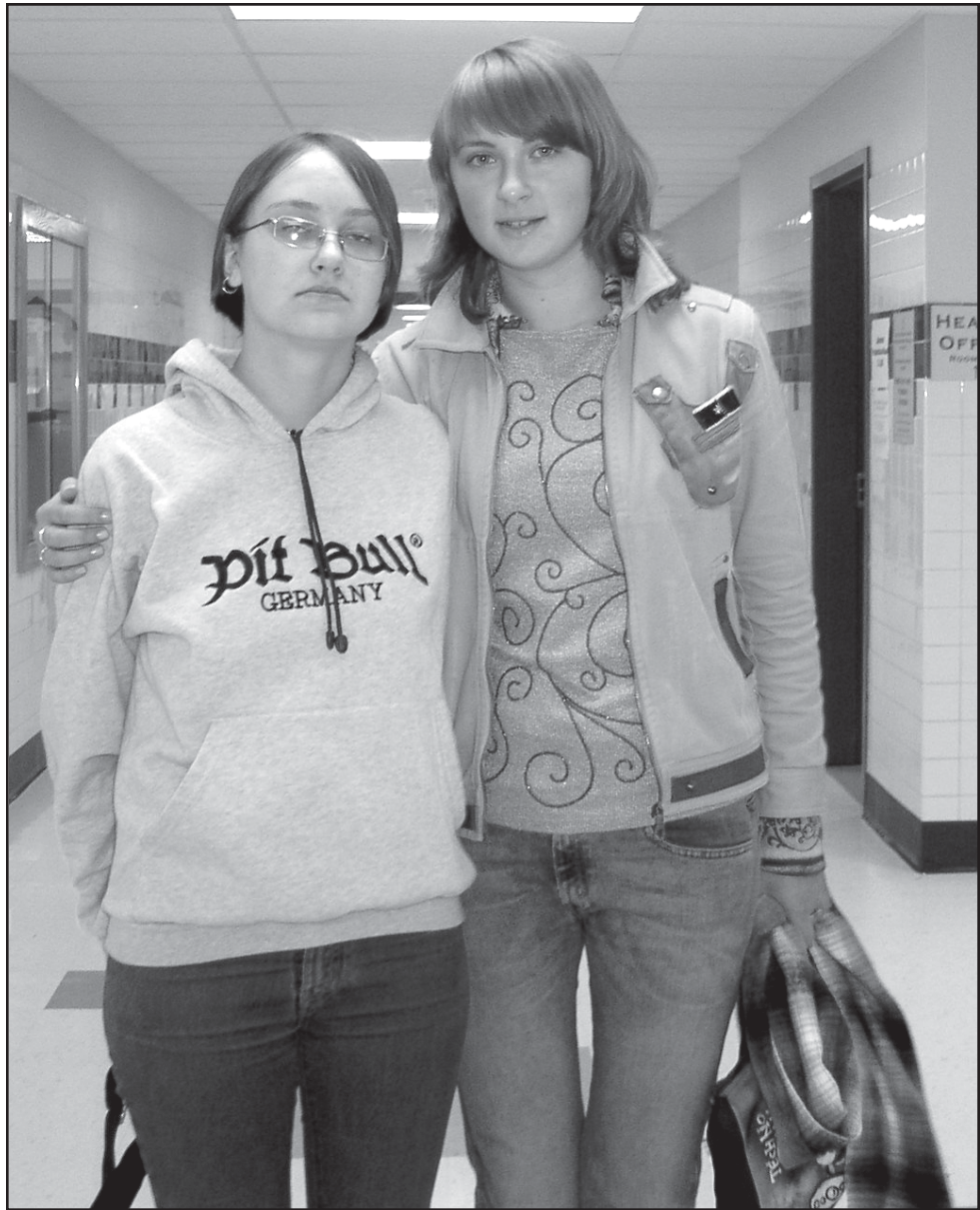
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Visiting Russian exchange students pose for a picture.

ALEXANDRA THE GREAT

Laura Thomas

Contributing Writer

After reading many of Sasha's e-mails with things like "I love reding yoor lettres! You sound so friendful!" I pictured this short Russian girl bundled up in her fur coat typing far away with her mittens on.

Through her e-mails I found out that she had been learning British English since she was in the second grade. I was anxious to meet "Sasha" (which is as she would say "short form" for Alexandra). I couldn't wait to hear her accent with thick V sounds instead of W's and her total disregard for the letter H. You can imagine my disappointment when I met her and she was utterly sweet and perfect.

The first thing I did when I met her was yell in her face, slowly. It's quite typical really, "HELLO. MY NAME IS LAAAURA. IT IS VERY NICE TO MEET YOU SAS-SHA." She simply smiled and gave me a hug and continued to blab with her friends in Russian. They looked scared. There we were, a clash of Americans who have no idea what's going on, and Russians who can definitely tell.

My parents and I took her home that night and gave her a tour of our house. It was filled with me saying stuff like "SO THIS IS A TOILETTE...HOW DO YOU SAY TOILETTE IN RUSSIAN?!?" It was very interesting. Especially when she saw our shower and excitedly said; "Woow, a real American douche..." I corrected her quickly.

During her two week stay, I had a great time pretending to be a tourist in New Hampshire. We went to see the horses and the buffalos and to Hampton Beach. These were perfect trips for limited vocabulary. Our conversations at these places were mainly imitating the chomping noises the horses made while we fed them carrots, and we hummed to the snails so they would come out of their shells.

When all the Russians were in a big group I eavesdropped as much as I could. It became easy for me to understand what they were saying by their facial and hand expressions. Every time I said "ya" there would be an outbreak of giggles. It seems they were not taught "wadda wanna do now eh?" either, because I always got a blank response in return.

I plan to go to on the trip to Novogorod in April, if you are interested, you should definitely talk to Mr. White or Mr. Herlihy soon! It was a really interesting experience learning and understanding the different cultures. I feel like I even gained some appreciation for our country which is a lesson in itself.

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traveling to
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White!**



November 23, 2004

Features

Intern Profiles



Name: Ryan Kaplan
Nickname: Mr. K
Subject: Social Studies
Favorite Food: Mexican
Unique things about you: I like to travel on bicycle.
Ortiz or Manny: I'm a Yankee fan, but I'm respectful to the Boston loyalists.
Why are you becoming a teacher: I have a passion for working with the high school population. I enjoy working with students and I feel that the subject has an amazing impact on educating our youth.
Are you married/have children: No
If you confronted The Almighty, what question would you ask: How much wood could a woodchuck chuck?
Where have you gone to school: I went to Marlboro High School in New Jersey and I got a B.A. in history at UNH. Right now I am completing my master of arts in teaching degree.
If you could erase anyone from existence, who would it be: Hitler
Favorite Power Ranger: Ask me in five years when I have kids.
Jabba the Hutt or Pizza Hut: Pizza Hut
What creature only lands on Earth very rarely, is confused by gravity, and is also dreadfully gangly: A typical UNH student.

Name: Katherine St. Hilaire
Nickname: Katie
Subject: English
Favorite Food: Ice cream
Unique thing about you: When I graduated from high school I went cross-country to every state but two (Alaska and Hawaii).
Ortiz or Manny: Ortiz
Why are you becoming a teacher: I enjoy teaching. I love to interact with people.
Are you married/have children: No
If you confronted The Almighty, what question would you ask: What were you thinking when you made the platypus?
Where have you gone to school: I went to Coe Brown for high school and UNH for college.
If you could erase anyone from existence, who would it be: Hitler
Favorite Power Ranger: The blue one, because I like the color.
Jabba the Hutt or Pizza Hut: Jabba the Hutt
What creature only lands on Earth very rarely, is confused by gravity, and is also dreadfully gangly: Martians from outer space.



Name: Keith O'Connor
Nickname: "Connor" to some... "John Connor" to others.... (from T2).
Subject: English
Favorite Food: Scottish Eggs
Ortiz or Manny: ORTIZ!
Why are you becoming a teacher: I have had an awesome experience with literature in the past and I really want kids coming through the school system now to take a look at the literature and writing I didn't get a chance to view until later in my life, or didn't appreciate until later in my life.
Are you married/have children: Nope
If you confronted The Almighty, what question would you ask: If there is a Hell...
Where have you gone to school: Alton Central School, St. Paul's, UNH
If you could erase anyone from existence, who would it be: Burt Reynolds
Favorite Power Ranger: Green man, he was the rebel..Right?
Jabba the Hutt or Pizza Hut: Pizza Hut is good, but Jabba the Hutt was awesome.
What creature only lands on Earth very rarely, is confused by gravity, and is also dreadfully gangly: Off the top of my head, I would guess a tornado..?

All intern profiles were compiled by the members of the Features Department. In case you don't know who we are by memory (although you should by now)... we are:
Sam DiSesa, Andrea Bingham, Kenton Slovenski, and John Eustace

Intern Profiles Continued...



Name: Maria Rosi
Nickname: Rosey, Ave
Subject: What’s a pirates favorite subject in school? ARRARRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRT
Favorite Food: Veggie Sushi, pasta
Unique thing about you: I’m amused the most by the simplest things.
Ortiz or Manny : Ortiz!
Why are you becoming a teacher: I have an insatiable appetite for learning. The most meaningful way to spend my life would be to help others develop that appetite.
Are you married/have children: Not at the moment, but someday...
If you confronted The Almighty, what question would you ask: I’d ask him to play me a little “Fire and Rain.”
Where have you gone to school: Colebrook Academy, Keene State, and UNH
If you could erase anyone from existence, who would it be: Ronald McDonald. He scares me.
Favorite Power Ranger : I have no clue
Jabba the Hutt or Pizza Hut: Jabba the Hutt
What creature only lands on Earth very rarely, is confused by gravity, and is also dreadfully gangly: Gumbi?

Name: Dr. Bixby
Nickname: none
Subject: English
Favorite Food: Tortellini with pesto
Unique thing about you: I biked across the country one summer
Ortiz or Manny: Manny
Why are you becoming a teacher:
Are you married/have children: I am married with a son who is 3 1/2 and a daughter who is 7 months.
If you confronted The Almighty, what question would you ask: Who should I erase from existence?
Where have you gone to school: Yale and Indiana University at Bloomington
If you could erase anyone from existence, who would it be: See above
Favorite Power Ranger: What is a Power Ranger?
Jabba the Hutt or Pizza Hut: Jabba the Hutt
What creature only lands on Earth very rarely, is confused by gravity, and is also dreadfully gangly: Woody Allen?

Name: Jennifer Bavier
Nickname: Jenny, Jen
Subject: English
Favorite Food: Chocolate in any form.
Unique thing about you: Went skydiving before. I also like to knit.
Ortiz or Manny: Ortiz!!
Why are you becoming a teacher: I want to inspire and educate a generation that believes in the power of words and communication and the weakness and cowardice of violence and force.
Are you married/have children: Neither, I’m only 23.
If you confronted The Almighty, what question would you ask: I’m confronted by things much grander than myself everyday. I do not need any questions answered by “God” or any other man-made deity. As someone more eloquent once said, “Life is the answer.”
Where have you gone to school: UNH, undergraduate and graduate.
If you could erase anyone from existence, who would it be: I wouldn’t.
Favorite Power Ranger: Huh? I’ve never watched the show!
Jabba the Hutt or Pizza Hut: Jabba, the Star Wars trilogy was great.
What creature only lands on Earth very rarely, is confused by gravity, and is also dreadfully gangly: I don’t like riddles!

“Letters to the Editor, Please let us know how you feel, not that we care, but we need to fill space.”
~ John Eustace



November 23, 2004

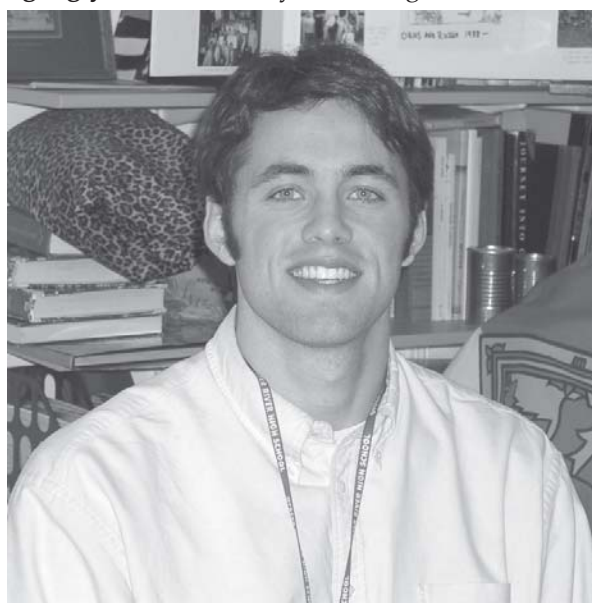
Features

Still more intern profiles...



Name: Barbara Santoro
Nickname: Barbs
Subject: English
Favorite Food: Anything with chicken or chocolate in it.
Unique thing about you: I have a brown belt in Karate.
Ortiz or Manny: Derek Jeter :)
Why are you becoming a teacher: To help people reach their potential and to try to hook people on literature.
Are you married/have children: Married, no children.
If you confronted The Almighty, what question would you ask: Why do I exist?
Where have you gone to school: Boston College undergrad, UNH grad.
If you could erase anyone from existence, who would it be: Toss up between Osama Bin Laden and Hitler.
Favorite Power Ranger: I think Power Rangers came out when I was in college...And we didn't have a t.v. in our dorm.
Jabba the Hutt or Pizza Hut: Jabba...Not as greasy as Pizza hut.
What creature only lands on Earth very rarely, is confused by gravity, and is also dreadfully gangly: Sounds like my cat.

Name: Benjamin Scott Sturgill
Nickname: Sturg
Subject: World cultures semester one, U.S. history semester two.
Favorite Food: A good steak
Unique things about you: I have a 16 shoe size...oh and I love puppets.
Ortiz or Manny : I gotta go with Big Papi.
Why are you becoming a teacher: I had my share of bad history teachers...I think history deserves more credit and excitement.
Are you married/have children: Neither, but I am engaged...*Congrats from the MOR*
If you confronted The Almighty, what question would you ask: Why in the world are there mosquitoes?...and I'd tell him great job on everything else!
Where have you gone to school: Hamilton High, Hamilton Ohio and UNH.
If you could erase anyone from existence, who would it be: History is about cause and effect, I'm not sure I would erase anyone.
Favorite Power Ranger : Blue of course.
Jabba the Hutt or Pizza Hut: Pizza Hut...Jabba's probably not as tasty.
What creature only lands on Earth very rarely, is confused by gravity, and is also dreadfully gangly: Hmm... Danny Sharbaugh.



Name: Brian O'Connell
Nickname: B.O.C
Subject: Math
Favorite Food: Pizza
Unique thing about you: I use to wear Nar Nar.
Ortiz or Manny: Manny...he's a little crazier.
Why are you becoming a teacher: It's pretty fun and I like working with kids.
Are you married/have children: Nope.
If you confronted The Almighty, what question would you ask: No idea at all.
Where have you gone to school: Keene High and UNH
If you could erase anyone from existence, who would it be: ...
Favorite Power Ranger: Uhh...the yellow one.
Jabba the Hutt or Pizza Hut: Jabba
What creature only lands on Earth very rarely, is confused by gravity, and is also dreadfully gangly: A martian?



What creature only lands on Earth very rarely, is confused by gravity, and is also dreadfully gangly?

Sorry Sturg...It's not Danny Sharbaugh (good guess though)
In fact, it's really Peter Mynsberge!
Does anyone see a pattern here, or is it just me?



The longest recorded flight of a chicken is thirteen seconds.

The average person loses two ballpoint pens a week.

19 Questions
with Shauna Horsley

Sam DiSesa
Features Writer



Full Name: Shauna Marie Horsley
Age: 28
Hero: Danger Mouse
Favorite Food: Sushi (more specifically...Usuzukuri, which is paper-thin hirami (flake) sashimi with ponzu sauce).
Most attractive person on Earth: Michael Franti from Spearhead.
Favorite pizza topping: Artichokes
Best movie of all time: “Better off Dead” is one of my favorites, but “Dead Man Walking” is right up there because it was my first date with my husband, though I almost didn’t go out with him again because he had chosen that movie.
Most unique thing about you: I’m fascinated by lizards and insects. If I switched careers, I’d either be an entomologist or I’d host a lizard show on the Discovery Channel.
Greatest teaching experience: Every day I experience a new greatest moment. This usually happens when I’m working with student writers and we’re conferencing on a draft. It’s amazing to watch writers as they learn to look critically at their own work.
Worst teaching experience: Hiking Mount Major with my non-fiction class and some freshmen. A few people got lost...Fortunately, they did not fall off the mountain as I had feared.
Favorite Mouth of the River staff member: John Eustace, because he’s on the dance team.
Best musical artist: Well, if I’m allowed a band, it’s Led Zeppelin. I fell in love with them in 7th grade. I remember walking to downtown Mount Vernon with my best friend Renee and my boombox blasting “The Ocean” while singing along with Robert Plant. Led Zep was influenced by so many important blues musicians, but their music still has this unique rawness which makes them the best band ever.
Shampoo of choice: The Body Shop and Tangerine Beer Shampoo.
If you had one wish, what would you wish for: I’d wish for more wishes because I’d have a tough time deciding what to wish for.

Cheers and Jeers	
Kenton Slovenski Features Writer	
Cheers to...	Jeers to...
The Red Sox and their curse ending ways	A-rod’s sissy slap in game six
Halo 2 returning to planet Earth	Having two equally terrible candidates to choose between
Patriots for keeping that funk alive for 21 games	Manny’s botched catch
Oyster River girls’ cross-country + Eyobe and James	Ohio
LS + CS	Nelly and Tim McGraw’s duo (It’s all in my head)
Schuyler Hersom	Alex Lamb
Hanover girls having more muscle mass than any male soccer team... USLE!!!!!!	Four to a table
Bush, President Bush....	

Favorite book: *Wuthering Heights* is my favorite classic. A more modern favorite is Barbara Kingsolver’s *Poisonwood Bible*.
Theory on life: I know it’s kind of cliché but carpe diem! There’s no point in dwelling on the past. I try to live each day to the fullest with no regrets. Sometimes I succeed!
Why you became a teacher: I love to read and write, I like to relate to people, and I wanted to have a job that would leave me feeling satisfied that I had done something worthwhile with my life.
Schwarzenegger or Stallone: Stallone
Wayne or Garth: It’s a tough call, but Garth has better hair.

BONUS
Worst feeling ever: I thought it was 19 questions! Being dumped right before prom ranks among the worst. It turns out that my “date” was joking when he asked me to go. *Very* cruel!

HALO 2: *Combat Even More Evolved*

Sam DiSesa

Features Writer

Dusk had set upon the land as my little brother, Max and I pulled into the Gamestop parking lot. It was 33 degrees out, so we layered up with sweatshirts and gloves. Three other guys were already there waiting. Gamestop knew the magnitude of the midnight release so they had a coffee and hot chocolate stand with many donuts. All of this was for free.

For two long hours we waited at the very front of the line. More and more people came as midnight approached. Finally at 11:55, the doors opened and we flooded in. I stood third in line, anxiously awaiting the clock on the register to strike midnight. A loud yell from the staff signaled that it was time. The two guys in front of me grabbed their copies and I eagerly stepped forward. Since I had already paid for it, I handed the man my receipt and at 12:03 p.m. I held a copy of Halo 2.

As soon as I got home, my brother and I played it until 6:00 a.m. Unfortunately sleep took hold of us and we had to delay the playing progress until later. I woke up at noon the same day and immediately began where I had left off. By 7:00 that night I had conquered Halo 2.

Now this is the part where I give a little insight about the most anticipated video game ever, but do not fear, none of the plot will be given away.

The second Halo begins basically right after the first one, as most expected it would. Master Chief and a few other soldiers receive recognition for their heroic deeds on the planetary ring known as Halo. But that is interrupted by the Covenant who seems to keep insisting on human destruction. The first level begins by defending the ship and deactivating the massive bomb that the Covenant set to go off.

What was very interesting and a bit confusing at first was the split plot they showed. After viewing Master Chief and the humans, the camera went to a Covenant Elite being dragged to the Covenant high council. This is the first time that people see and begin to understand the inner-workings of the Covenant and that they're not just a bunch of small stupid aliens. From the very beginning, it made players wonder what kind of plot twists this was going to lead to, and believe me; it does lead to an intriguing surprise later in the game.

Halo 2 is more enriched in plot and detail than the first. The videos after each level are longer and reveal much more to the actual story line, which is very in

depth. New characters, weapons, and vehicles are introduced in the game. The Warthog is much easier to control, so it doesn't seem like Master Chief took a few swigs of liquor before hopping in the thing like in the first game. I was a bit disappointed that they ended up taking the rocket launcher off the back of the hog, but it's probably for the best.

The most noticeable new feature and by far my favorite, is the double-wielding action. With certain weapons you can pick up one in each hand and fire both at the same time using the right trigger for the right hand weapon, and the left trigger for the left hand

makes it a much more even match between someone on foot and someone riding the Ghost.

The Wraiths, which are the Covenant tanks, are now drivable. Master Chief is able to jump onto it, punch a hole through the top, and either pull the incumbent out or huck in a bunch of grenades, causing the Wraith to explode from the inside. The alien vehicle Spectre, which is the equivalent of the warthog, is also available to drive.

The color variation on Master Chief's armor is more in-depth. Players are now able to choose a primary color, a secondary color, and an emblem which ap-



Master Chief strikes a pose as he charges the forces of evil. Photo courtesy of www.bungie.net

weapon. This enables you to absolutely mow down the opposing enemy. The rocket launcher is now heat-seeking, and the pistol is incredibly horrible compared to the deadly one in Halo, where three shots to the head were enough to kill a foe.

The alien Ghost is a bit slower but has a thrust feature that gives it a boost of speed. The laser fire is much more rapid and if you're hit by the vehicle with full health, it won't instantly kill you. This enables you to hold on X when it's near you and Master Chief will hop onto it and knock off the rider. This feature

appears on the shoulder of Master Chief.

Halo 2 is not necessarily better than Halo, but it contains aspects that make it much more involved and exciting. It's hard to beat a classic such as the first game, but Halo 2 does its job in continuing the story of the fight to save Earth and the human species.

Ladies and Gentlemen, get ready for Halo 3 because Master Chief's business remains unfinished.

Future Movies and CDs

Andrea Bingham

Features Writer

November 24, 2004:

Christmas with the Kranks – This movie is based on the John Grisham novel, "Skipping Christmas." Tim Allen and Jamie Lee Curtis star as Luther Krank and Nora Krank. They decide to skip Christmas and go on a vacation instead. But when their daughter decides to come home for Christmas at the last minute, they are forced to put Christmas back together. This movie also stars: Cheech Marin, Jake Busey, M. Emmet Walsh, and Dan Aykroyd.

December 3, 2004:

Closer – This movie is based on a play by Patrick Marber. It is about two couples. A man from one of the couples sleeps with the woman from the other couple. This puts their friendships at risk. Jude Law, Natalie Portman, Julia Roberts, and Clive Owen star.

December 8, 2004:

Blade 3: Trinity – Wesley Snipes stars in this third movie about Blade, a vampire hunter. He is forced to join a group of human vampire hunters called the

Nightstalkers. With their help, he tries to track down an ancient creature that is also hunting him. This creature is the original vampire known as Dracula. Ryan Reynolds, Ashley Scott, Kris Kristofferson, Jessica Biel, Dominic Purcell, Parker Posey, James Remar, Callum Keith Rennie, Natasha Lyonne, John Michael Higgins, and Steve Braun star.

December 10, 2004:

Ocean's 12 – This movie follows the same cast of characters as Ocean's 11. Having stolen \$150 million from a Las Vegas Casino, they go to Europe, where they plan their future heists. One of these heists involves the theft of a Rembrandt painting. At the same time, the casino owner that they stole from has sent hit men after them. This movie stars: George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Andy Garcia, Don Cheadle, Julia Roberts, Casey Affleck, Scott Caan, Elliott Gould, Eddie Jemison, Bernie Mac, Carl Reiner, Vincent Cassel, Eddie Izzard, Peter Fonda

December 17, 2004:

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate

Events – Jim Carrey stars as Count Olaf, a wily man who uses clever disguises and outrageous schemes to try and steal the inheritance of three of his orphaned relatives. Jude Law narrates the movie as the voice of Lemony Snicket. Timothy Spall, Liam Aiken, Emily Browning, Meryl Streep, and Cedric the Entertainer also star.



Blade 3 Photo Courtesy of www.moviesonline.ca

December 22, 2004:

Meet the Fockers – This movie is the sequel to "Meet the Parents." In this movie, the uptight parents of Pam Byrnes (Teri Polo) meet the mellow and relaxed parents of Greg Focker (Ben Stiller). The two families are so different, that no matter how hard they try they can't get them to get along. Robert De Niro, Dustin Hoffman, Blythe Danner, and Barbra Streisand also star.

Nov. 23, 2004:

Incubus - Alive at Red Rock

U2 - How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb

Nov. 30, 2004:

Nas - Street's Disciple

All information about movies and CDs were obtained from www.comingsoon.net, www.movies.com, and www.countrystandardtime.com/standardtimeupcomingcds.html

Overheards

"She is one hot lady."

~ Mr. Mroz, about Shirley Thompson

"I like testing people, and cats."

~Aaron Morong

"What's the opposite of buffalo?"

~Kira Griswald

"If I said doing it was wrong...then obviously."

~Mrs. Kucera

"Is it bad if a girl asks me if I'm gay?"

~Aaron Morong

"This is like Physics on crack.."

~Christina Stark referencing Trigonometry

"You can't Google G-strings."

~John Eustace

"Let's do a ducky movie rendition..."

~Alex Belaidi

"I personally have a very dirty mind."

~Ms. Kucera

"You mean Frankenstein the turtle?"

~Abbie Wade

"Hey, do you have any mushrooms?.... Wait, I mean marshmallows."

~Peter Mynsberge



Features



"Does the refrigerator light *really* go off when you close the door..?" ~Douglas Baker

On The Spot



"Buddha, did you ever go to Jenny Craig?"
~Ben Johnson

If you confronted The Almighty, what question would you ask?



"Why am I so devilish?" ~Alyssa Ballestero



"Why is the boys soccer team so gosh-darn good-looking?!?" ~Jessica Roeder



"Do you ever chill with Satan?" ~Pat Jackson



"Are you real?" ~Kinsman Taylor

Sam DiSesa and Kenton Slovenski

Features Writers

The “Real OC”

Kenton Slovenski

Features Writer

AWKWARD, AWKWARD and just a little bit more awkward. That’s basically the only possible description of the new “Reality Drama,” *Laguna Beach*. This show makes me want to rip my hair out, curl up in a little ball and remove myself from society.

Now that I got that out of the way, this hot new reality show is ripping its way up the charts and binding itself to our hearts. Although at first the show caused me great pain and was a struggle to watch, I must admit I am addicted. A fellow fanatic of *Laguna Beach* is Oyster River’s own Abbie Wade who said, “At first I thought that *Laguna Beach* was going to just be another lame reality show, but it really grabbed my attention and now I just can’t live without seeing Stephen every week.”

There are eight main characters: Stephen, Lauren (LC), Kristin, Lo, Christina, Morgan, Trey, and Talan (Ordered by coolness/relevance/importance/Awkwardness). The entire show revolves around LC and Kristin fighting

over Stephen, who in my opinion is just an idiot. Everything Stephen says is just painful to hear, because it is so lame. I think part of me watches the show just to see how terrible of a human being Stephen will be this week. Another way Stephen is best summed up by local soccer star Sarah Roeder, “Stephen is so hot.”

Laguna Beach is a revolutionary style of reality destined to shake things up. It is the first show to be real, but also scripted by the producers to follow a desired

story. The Show claims itself to be the “Real OC” and aims to catch that crowd. “It’s like a prelude to the OC’s new season... It gets me pumped,” said Jeff Young.

“It’s the fakest reality show I’ve ever scene. They are all acting,” said local outdoorsman Luke Schuster. I agree with Schuster on this fine statement. The issue of whether it is real is a major component to this show’s success.

Another thing that separates it from other reality shows is its cinematography. *Laguna Beach* uses digital video, which is what is used for commercials and scripted television. It has also disregarded the crazy stunts, prizes, celebrity appearances and the ever so popular confessionals. This style could become the next big thing on cable television. *Laguna Beach*’s relationship centered plot enthralls the teen drama loving viewers and the awkwardness, unpredictably, and realness of the show, captivate true reality lovers.



A very distant replication of *Laguna*

plot. All the dialogue and screenplay is real, but the producers pick and choose the scenes to develop the

“Real OC” continued on page 20

Musician of the Month

John Eustace

Features Writer

Name: Madeline H. Kelly

Nickname: Maddie and Mad Dawg

Instrument: Voice, guitar, a little piano

Favorite Food: Pasta with pesto

Unique things about you: I’m actually a vampire

Favorite Type of music to perform: Folk!

Favortite Song: Anything by Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young...and sometimes not Young

Ortiz or Manny : Number 34 baby

Why are interested in music: Why not? Music is the gift of...LIFE, Jesus

If you confronted The Almighty, what question would you ask: Are you real?

How do you like music/ musical events at Oyster River: It’s good, PIT rocks!

If you could erase anyone from existence, who would it be: Hillary Duff...(remainder of quote censored by MOR)

Favorite Power Ranger : Kimberly [the pink one]

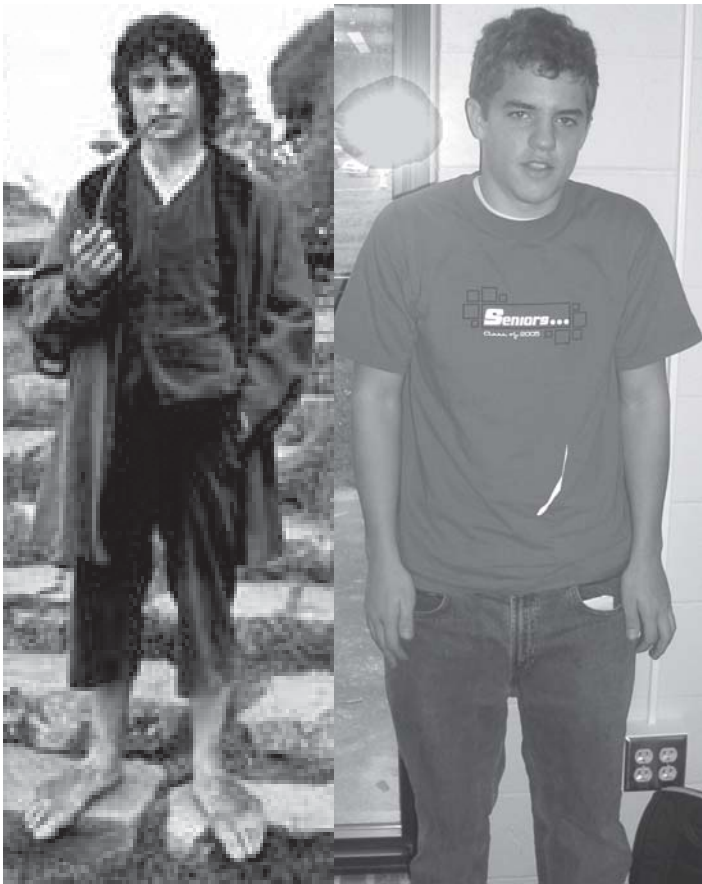
Jabba the Hutt or Pizza Hut: Pizza Hut...duh

What creature only lands on Earth very rarely, is confused by gravity, and is also dreadfully gangly: Nikki Casimiro



All of the clocks in *Pulp Fiction* are stuck on 4:20.

The first Ford cars had Dodge engines.



Frodo

Frodo 2.0



Taco Bell Chihuahua



Taco Bell Chihuahua 2.0

2.0's

2.0: (too-point-oh): A person or creature that has very similar characteristics to an Oyster River member.



Milton



Andre the Giant



Andre the Giant 2.0



Jamie Farrell



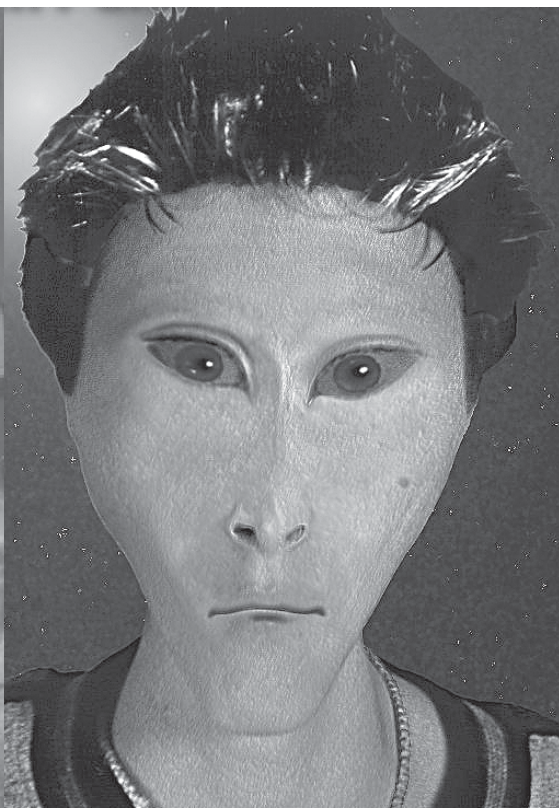
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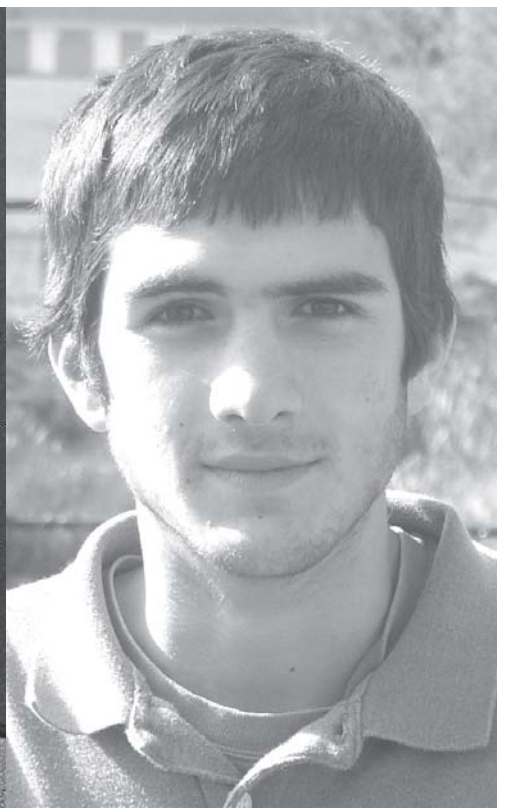
Simon Birch



Simon Birch 2.0



Alien Duder



Alien Duder 2.0



Milton 2.0



A-Rod



A-Rod 2.0



Jamie F.



Spike the Gremlin



Spike the Gremlin 2.0

Features

Movie Review: *The Grudge*

Andrea Bingham

Features Writer

After becoming the number one movie in its opening weekend and grossing over 39 million dollars, *The Grudge* is captivating audiences across the country with its daunting special effects and ability to fill your heart with dread and apprehension.

"I thought that it was the scariest thing that I've ever seen in my life. I spent most of the movie with my hands covering my eyes," said Patricia McCarthy, a senior at ORHS. Patricia went to see *The Grudge* the day after it came out. Her twin sister, Katherine, felt the same way, saying "It was a good movie. Some of the people I saw it with said it was really dumb, but I liked it. I get scared really easily so it really creeped me out, but I'd definitely see it again. But probably during the day after it came out on video or something so I don't get that scared again."

The movie stars Sarah Michelle Gellar as Karen, an exchange student studying social work in Japan. She went to Japan with her boyfriend, Doug (Jason Behr), who was studying architecture. She agrees to cover for a nurse that didn't show up from work (I assume that you can guess why). When she arrives at the house, she finds an elderly American woman who appears to be in a catatonic state, while the house appears to be deserted and the floor covered in trash. While in the house, she hears scratching noises, and upon investigating, she is faced with a supernatural horror more frightening than she could ever imagine. The house is possessed by a violent plague that will kill anyone it can get its hands onto. Known as "*The Grudge*," this curse causes its victims to die in the grip of a powerful rage. Those who are fatally afflicted by the curse die, and a new curse is born, passed like a virus to all those who enter the house in an endless, growing chain of horror.

According to the movie's website (which by the way is a lot like reliving the movie, don't go into the closet!) www.sonypictures.com/movies/thegrudge/, *The Grudge* is a remake of the Japanese movie *Ju-On*. There are in fact, four *Ju-On* movies featuring the same name. Three of them are "*Ju-On: The Grudge*," "*Ju-On: The Grudge 2*," and "*Ju-On: The Curse*." Takashi

Shimizu directed both of the movies and wrote the four original ones. The movie was produced by Taka Ichise, the same man that produced the Japanese version of *The Ring* (*Ringu*). Takako



Photo Courtesy of www.movies.com

Fuji (the dead woman), and Yuya Ozeki (the creepy little boy) both were in the original movie as well as this one.

The phrase "curiosity killed the cat," was probably the motto for this movie. It seems that no matter where you are (even hiding under your covers), you are still vulnerable to the evils waiting for you. You better not get attached to many people in the movie, there is a good chance that they might not make it in the end. The creepiest part of the movie had to have been the little boy. When he opens his mouth wide and starts to make a cat-like sound, it's just disturbing. In general, the movie is more creepy than scary. There are many other sounds that affect you in the same way as the little boy does. The noise that the dead woman makes is even worse.

The music in the movie escalates as you wait in anticipation, knowing that something bad is about to happen, that someone is about to die. This doesn't make the movie scary, it only makes you paranoid, always waiting for something to happen. You know that it is coming but you are never quite ready for it. The safest place to watch *The Grudge* is probably after it has been released on DVD, in the safe comfort of your own home...

The worst thing about the movie was the

bouncing back and forth from the present to the past. The movie skipped around so much that it was easy to get confused. At one point the present and the past were even occurring at the same time.

One quote that I found that expressed the movie well was the following: "Less scary than creepy, *The Grudge* may have lost some oomph in the translation from Japanese to English," said Manohla Dargis, a writer at the New York Times.

Like many other horror movies, including *The Ring*, the success of this movie has lead to talks about making a sequel to it (tentatively coming out 2006). I can't imagine what this one will be about or if it will involve the same malevolent spirits, but it should be rather interesting.

"After I left the theatre, I was so scared and I didn't want to go to sleep. I think that it was a really good movie, and I think that everyone who wants a good scare should go see it," Patricia said. Like the movie's catchphrase, "It never forgives, It never forgets," this movie isn't easily forgotten.

"Real OC" continued from page 17

And now I leave you with quotes that are just awesome... Courtesy of MTV.com

Friend: "If you and Stephen ever had babies, they'd be so good looking."

Kristin: "They would, 'cause Stephen's all tan."

Stephen: "Kristin's a really good girl to hook up with and have fun with. And that's why I'm so amped on her. And I love, like - we can just have like so much fun. But coming down like the boyfriend and girlfriend stuff, it's, like, Lauren would be like a better girlfriend."

Kristin: "I'm really stressed out on Stephen and Lauren. Last night, he told me he was going to bed early. And then today I found out that he was at her house and —"

Talan: "Do you know if they hooked up?"

Kristin: "He says that they didn't."

Talan: "Does that bother you? It's kind of funny, you guys like have a relationship, but it's on and off. You hook up with him; he hooks up with Lauren. You hook up with him; he hooks up with Lauren. I come in on the side and kind of like grab one of you. You know what I mean? Gosh. Our town is so small. We need another girl."

Kristin: "What's that supposed to mean?"

Fashion Questions from Those who Obviously Did Not Read My Previous Article...*Yeah, I know who you are*

John Eustace

Features Writer

Walk down the halls of Oyster River, look around, everywhere there are people who need help, looking, nay searching for the one person who can get them out of country rags and into couture finery. Who is this magical, magnificent, marvolous fashion mad man who will change the way you dress forever...why it's me of course...duh! I have collected a series of some questions that i feel many people need to ask but very few have the [guts] to. Here are your answers, thank you to all my curious commerades who came foward with their own queries. ENJOY!

"So John, whatever happened to scrunchies?"-Erin Dwyer

Well these horrible hair restraints needed to go before they came in...enough said.

"Is fleece really for lesbians ?"-Megan Sievert

Yes, yes it is... sorry. No seriously, unless you're at a lodge, you shan't wear this material due to its lesbianatic nature. Plus, it is not good to wear synthetic fibers... yeah that's it!

"What kind of underwear should I wear with white pants?"-Leslie Sarno

Excellent question! Well this one is a question many people should be asking but don't... you know who you are!... Well I would say the best thing to wear under white pants is a flesh-toned HIP-G. (If you don't know what a HIP-G is, it is a g-string which is made without any seams so that you don't get VPL...) and if you're wondering why I say flesh colored, it is because it is easier to see white underthings in bright lights, while flesh tones tend to blend in with the skin.

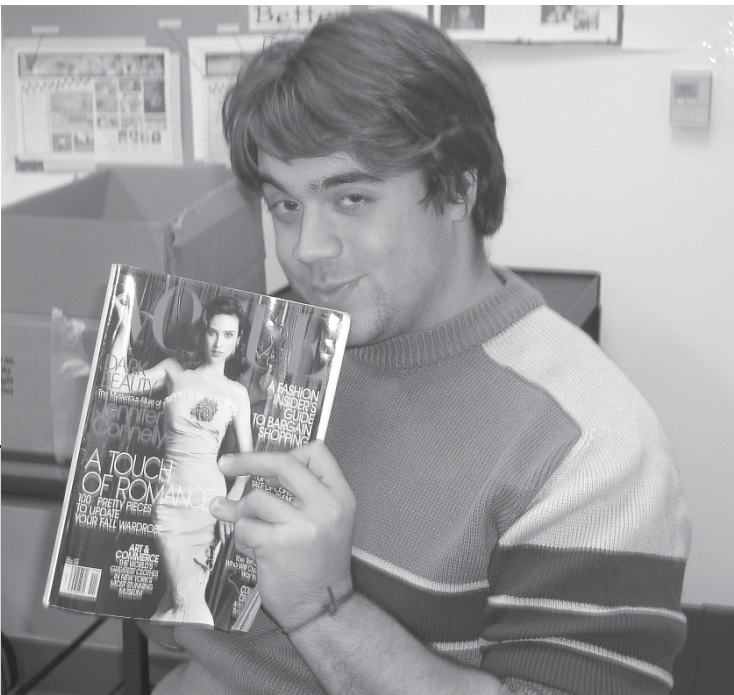
"What looks good under overalls ?"-Kendra Davis

A farmer!.... No in all seriousness I am no expert on overalls, but the Mouth of the River's Celie Harris happens to be an expert on this subject. She feels that a good striped shirt looks quite nice under a comfy pair of overalls!

"What hats look good on Girls ?"-Sarah Oner

Well personally I think that no hat looks good on girls, especially baseball hats that are pink! To the best of my knowledge, no sports team's colors are pink! But if you must wear a hat try a nice simple hat and don't try and go over the top. Hats usually look dumb, so you are taking a risk, but if it looks good it's worth the risk!

"How can I dress so I don't look like a "teacher," but I don't look like I'm trying to hard?" - The Judy Kucera



John with his Bible

Soooooooooooo many possibilities! Goodness, here are a few recommendations: 1. Trouser jeans - these special jeans have a slight sheen, straight lines, and don't have that exposed stitching that we are all too familiar with, like on normal jeans. 2. A seer-sucker suit will be a great piece because it is versatile and fun. Even if you wear it as whole suit, it still has an element of whimsy. 3. Mix and match. Take plain suit bottoms and mix it with a jean jacket, its fresh and fun.... caution: do not wear jeans and a blazer... ever. That is so fronkin' "teachery" 4. Consult me whenever possible... good luck!

"Is it ever OK for a guy to wax/pluck his eyebrows?" -Tim O'Keefe

No not usually... unless there is some serious uni-brow going on, but if you are going to alter your eyebrows have it done professionally. It might be a little more embarrassing, but it's better to have it done right than have it done wrong and have everyone know that you plucked your eyebrows!

"Is it true you can't wear white shoes after Labor Day?"- Mariah Tarvainen

Yes it is! I would expect you to know that Mariah! Goodness me, I'm so disappointed!

"How can I get my hair to be curly if its not?" -Laura Peters

Five words: Frederick Fekkai Curly Hair Serum...simple as that.

"Can you wear nylons with open toed shoes ?...I actually know the answer but I just wanted to put it out there for others to learn from"- Ms.Kenney

Well I'm glad you know. But for the rest of the world who is not as fashion conscious, no you may not wear nylons with open toed shoes. Please for the sake of humanity don't even try it!

"What can I wear that's comfortable but not scrubby ?"-Sarah Roeder

Hmm... This is quite a good question, Ms. Roeder. First of all, NO FLEECE! But luckily loose jeans... A.K.A "boyfriend fit" are in right now, so pair that with a set of layered t-shirts and you look relaxed but not frumpy.

Don't agree with me? Write back!



Op-Ed

Josh Collins

Op-Ed Writer

The War on Terror

What have we gotten ourselves into now?

We all know what's going on. We've all heard the sound bytes and seen the T.V. spots telling us...we're waging against terrorism. Now while waging a war on terror and all things that go bump in the night may sound good, what does it really mean? What exactly is this 'terror' and how are we fighting it? Are we winning or losing? And most importantly, what is this war costing us to fight? If you're as curious as I am than just keep reading.

Now if we believe what President Bush tells us, the war on terror is being fought against an evil organization by the name of Al-Qaeda and its primary battleground is Iraq. I really wish I could say it was that simple, that way it might actually be winnable. The unfortunate truth is that these terrorists have no single nationality and they have no clear terroritory in which we can fight them in. To put it simply, we're not fighting a country, we're fighting an idea.

To quote a wise man by the name of Alex Lamb, "It's not possible to eliminate all the terrorism in the world." Lamb's absolutely right; the people who fill up the terrorist ranks aren't fighting us because someone told them to, they're doing it because they view us as foreign invaders who are trying to belittle their own beliefs and replace them with our own brand of living. Now here's where we get

Photo Courtesy of www.google.com/Images

caught in a Catch 22, we have to fight against terrorists to keep our people safe but the harder we fight the more we verify their cause and the more terrorists we find ourselves fighting.

This being the case, the longer we fight this war on terror, the more and more we get bogged down in its battlefronts. Over 200 billion dollars have been either spent or committed to Iraq as well as over 1,100 lives sacrificed for this war. Now has all that made much of a difference? No, the situation in Iraq

is worse than ever and there's still no end in sight. Some might decide to blame the Bush administration for this, people such as junior Jesse Schram think "Bush is going to war for his own personal agenda and trying to convince everyone that we're winning when in actuality we're running the biggest deficit with nothing to show for it."

Sgt. Everett Leshner of the U.S. Army believes that "A military force alone won't get it done; a cultural attack is also required. This isn't a war that can be measured in years or decades, it has to be measured in generations." Sgt. Leshner also says "Right now some of the Iraqi people consider us the enemy so we need to try to educate them that we're here to help them establish a free society. To do it right though is something that's going to take generations."

What Sgt. Leshner is saying is absolutely right. The way to win the war on terror isn't to hunt every one of them down but rather to show them that we respect their beliefs whatever they are and that we only want to help. As nice as that sounds though, it's something that's going to take a very long time, possibly even generations to accomplish and unfortunate as it may be. we're still going to have to use a military to defend ourselves from those who'd wish us harm while we're trying to get the message through.

Top 10 Things to be Thankful For

Josh Collins

Op-Ed Writer

10. That we decided not to publish all articles concerning the dance team
9. There's no dress code (rock on scantily clad women)
8. That high school is only 4 years
7. That we elected the right man for president...oh wait...
6. It's the holiday season...the only season where it's deemed socially acceptable to eat an entire turkey in one sitting.
5. That the class of 2005 is so superbly awesome
4. The Patriots are going to win this year's Super Bowl...trust me.
3. Mr. Hawley can't take his classes on a field trip to Ohio
2. You have such a wonderful Mouth of the River staff.
1. The Red Sox reversed the curse and won a World Series in our lifetime

Rumor Column

Alex Belaidi

Op-Ed Writer

- Mr. Bromley got a nose job; he used to be really ugly
- Sturgill is captain of the UNH Gymnastic Team, not basketball
- Ms. Johns is Ms. Rayner's little sister
- Dr. Bixby was spotted in the Bull Run, didn't turn himself in, and lost his free period
- Mr. Hawley isn't from Ohio
- Weitzman has huge "guns" and an 85mph fastball
- Sarah Crothers has four ankles
- Ryan Hamer passes out between classes
- Sharbaugh is the projected heart-throb of the senior class
- Kay Kay flosses Matt Tirrell's teeth
- Merlin has a secret crush on Roxy, so does Peepee
- Katie is torn between Mr. Bromley and Mr. Hawley for her prom date
- Cy Watson peeps on girls his own age
- Surely, she was sighted consuming a small minnow beneath a bridge
- Squeegemore and Collins are moving to Vermont, for obvious reasons
- Tim O'Keefe has three sisters, Courtney, Bailey, and Patricia
- Jeff Young doesn't have an innie chest
- Courtney Miller doesn't like Ricky Boswell, thanks Caitlin Byrne
- Catherine McNally drives with her lights on



To Protect and Serve?

Alex Belaidi

Op-Ed Writer

"Why don't you stop ****ing lying to me and tell me what the *** is going on." "Nice shoes. Who the *** do you think you are, Punky Brewster?"

These are just a couple of the many things police have said to friends of mine. Police harrassment exists in many forms, and no matter whether it is physical or verbal, it is wrong. This has always been an issue in America, and has always been swept under the rug of the public conscience. For the large amount of excellent police officers on force all over the country, there are many cops who seem to mistake their badge for a license that entitles them to use their power whenever possible. Police use unnecessary jurisdiction in many ways, especially with young adults.

There are many good men and women on the Durham Police force, but most kids our age don't seem to see this side. We see the police who bother us when we hang out in parking lots too long or congregate anywhere downtown late at night. We see the police officers who think that all teenagers are up to no good. To us, police aren't here to "protect and serve", they're here to badger and intimidate. If police officers are supposed to make us feel safe, then why is it when we're hanging out downtown and a squad car shows up, you hear "Damn, it's the cops." No matter whether you call them the fuds, the po-po, five-oh, the jakes, squallay, pigs, or

the po-nine, they are seen by teens as a squad of power-hungry troops ready and willing to bother any and all adolescents.

We know that there are crooked cops all over the United States, and they all have their own vices. Most of us are familiar with Rodney King, an African-American who was beaten severely in Los Angeles in 1994 for doing absolutely nothing. He was a victim of profiling, an act committed by police officers all the time. Most of my peers will agree when I say that many cops in Durham profile teenagers a great deal. Of course racism exists everywhere, even in

Durham, but the most prevalent profiling in Durham is of teens. We are constantly in the downtown area, and most of us stick out like sore thumbs compared to the college students.

I had a conversation with Sergeant Levesque, who may have an answer.

"It's all about stereotypes. I have spent many years with you guys and I know you all very well. Some of these other police officers, who don't spend lots of time with you guys, have negative attitudes or prejudices toward teenagers." I think this is the problem. We get harassed by certain police officers on a few occasions and begin to think that all of them are jerks who are just out to get us, which isn't true. At the same time, many police officers are guilty of thinking that all teenagers are up to no good.

He also explains how the Durham Police Department handles complaints about officers. "If we do re-

ceive a complaint from someone, our police department is very vigilant about determining what happened and giving the officer proper arraignment, if guilty."

Another issue brought up in our discussion was the overall impoliteness of police. Many of my peers have told me about police officers who have sworn at them and used a great deal of unnecessary profanity. "I have been sworn at multiple times, when using profanity was unnecessary. Actually, using profanity really isn't ever necessary," says Senior Sean McLean.

There is something important that you should know about the police forces in Durham. I say forces because there is more than one. Durham Police and UNH Police are two completely separate departments. They are affiliated with one another to a certain degree, in that the town of Durham gives the UNH Police their arrest power. Overall, both departments tend to patrol the campus, so we tend to see equal amounts of both forces. It would be nice if one police force harrassed us more, but in reality, they both are guilty of this act.

It is safe to say things won't change. As long as we all have our differences, we will all have our stereotypes of each other. I respect police officers for their bravery and the difficulty of their job. I do not respect those police officers who badger teenagers for frivolous reasons. I apologize in advance to anyone who I may offend by writing this article, but it is simply a real problem. And I am sorry police officers, but teenagers aren't going away. You'll just have to deal with us.

**"It's all about stereotypes."
-Sargeant Levesque**

Ask Alex

Alex Belaidi

Op-Ed Writer

Abbie, you seriously need to get a life. Only senior guys are allowed to peep game on freshmen girls. It can't be the other way around. You seem to have no problem with sophomore guys...at dances.

Sean McLean: Who will be my next girlfriend?

Sean, it will be any girl that can handle a dude that drinks Nyquil and passes out in the backseat of a car in Philadelphia.

Sara Powell: Is the plural of octopus octopi?

Um. Yes. That was a horrible question.

Kay Mullin: What is the meaning of life?

Well Kay, I live by the three B's. I can't really speak about it right now, but feel free to ask me in private, or you can ask the new librarian. She knows all about the three B's. Trust me.

Eliot Jones: Can I skate my Tech Deck on your head? It looks a lot like a half-pipe.

Well, I have had my head compared to many divot shaped things, like the Grand Canyon, or a sand pit on a golf course, but a half-pipe is a new one. I mean, I guess if you still have your Tech Decks, go right ahead.



Michelle Crothers: What ever happened to truth or dare?

Well, maybe because kids started feeling uncomfortable making out with their good friends or going to second base with total strangers. Unfortunately, it just faded away as we got older. I completely support a comeback.

Abbie Wade: How do I get a freshman to date me?



Crossfire ...

with Josh and Brian

Weighted Grades

B- Our current grading system totally puts our smartest and hardest working kids at a disadvantage. These people are working harder than the average student and are challenging themselves by taking the most rigorous courses available. Our school needs to do these students justice and give them the credit that they deserve.

J- Now that's just a twisted viewpoint, do you take courses just for grades? The reward of taking more advanced courses is to challenge yourself and to learn more than you would in a regular class...not to get good grades. We all learn at different rates and of course not everyone is as smart as the all-knowing Brian; who's to say that someone isn't as equally challenged in geometry as someone else is in calculus. An A is the same for all of us because we want to give everyone the same opportunities and we don't want to be elitists...like you.

B- An A is not the same for everyone. If some-



one works that much harder for their A, their A should be worth that much more. And yes, we do want to give everyone equal opportunities... by giving the people who work the hardest the credit they deserve... you scum.

Hazing

J- Let me start this by saying that hazing is a cornerstone of American culture. It teaches respect and the simple fact that life is unfair. It establishes hierarchies in important organizations such as fraternities and businesses. It engrains respect and tradition, two qualities that are often lacking.

B- I don't think anyone is arguing that tradition and respect are important. However, are these things worth the price of beating innocent people with paddles, and encouraging drunkenness on an unprecedented level? I mean, people have died while participating in hazing activities. There are other ways to teach respect and tradition, ways that don't involve people dying of drunkenness.



J- Please, don't try to frighten us with your craaaaaazy scare-tactics. The fact of the matter is that that sort of thing really doesn't happen and that it's used as a hollow warning by people who would seek to shield us from the tougher aspects of life so that we're unprepared for being out on our own. I mean, these are the same sort of people who seek to ban swings from elementary school playgrounds because kids might scrape their knees.

France

B- I just don't get France. I mean, they sell weapons to terrorists and hostile dictators, they ride weird

bikes that have really big front wheels, they smell like cheese, and they let their dogs eat at the table with them. Also, they are the most ungrateful fools I have ever seen. We saved them during both WWI and WWII, and then we had to hold their hand throughout the entire Cold War. And now they have the gall to bad mouth us for protecting our own citizens from dictators to whom they sold weapons?!?!?! I think we've found the next step in the war on terror.....

J- We've all heard this tune before—"France is bad, blah blah blah, they're crazy surrender monkeys." Next time, try coming up with something original. The truth is, France has its fair share of problems, but so do we. We both gave weapons to the Middle East; only difference is...we gave away our weapons for free! Saddam Hussein was a benign dictator who never posed a threat (as shown by the total lack of WMDs in Iraq). At least some of the money France gave to Iraq went to their economy and helped the Iraqi people.

B- Yes, we have all heard that tune... and the tune sings true. France is bad. They're bad at war, they're bad cooks, and they're bad at taking showers. Yes, the money France gave to Iraq did help the Iraqi people... if the Iraqi people are actually Iraqi tanks and warplanes.

Abortion

J- I'll kick this topic off by saying that whether or not abortion should be legal is one of the toughest choices facing any rational person; if a woman is raped and becomes pregnant than should she have to have the child? Unfortunately, abortion is mainly seen as just a way to get unpregnant. Since 1973 when abortion became legal, there have been over 44 million abortions. For those of you born in 1987, consider the fact that around 28% of the total newborns in that year were aborted. That's over a 1 in 4 chance that you could have been aborted. When does a human life become a human life? Just think about that... it's the reason that abortion is wrong.

B- I'll agree with you...abortion is a very tough choice. However, because we live in a nation based on freedom of choice, the choice of whether or not to abort an unborn child should fall to the parents of that child, not the govern-



ment. If a woman is raped, do we really want to make her have that child? Do we really want to allow children to be born into unloving homes? I do believe, however, that there needs to be a point where we draw the line. I'm talking about partial birth abortions. I simply believe that a seven month old unborn child is too old and too far developed, and the procedure involved is just not ok.

Death Penalty

B- If you take a life in the first degree, your life should be forfeit. We need to be harsh to those who harm our society. I mean, people are murdering children, getting life in jail (aka- free food and lodging), and getting released in 35 years for "good behavior." I say, if they're found guilty, take 'em out behind the court house and end it there. Hey, I'll even bring the gun, thank you 2nd amendment.

J- That's just ridiculous, by murdering those who are murderers, don't we become the same thing? You want to talk about free food and lodging? How about the years on death row in your own private cushy cell, the luscious last meal fol-

lowed by going into that sweet goodnight by lethal injection? Come on, I say true punishment is letting them rot in jail for the rest of their lives and them having to watch out for big Bubba in the shower-room till the day they die.

B- Yeah... too bad most of them get out within a few decades of entering prison. It is very rare that someone actually dies of old age in prison. Also, I agree with you, lethal injection is just too soft. I say bring back Old Sparky and let 'em fry.

Gun Control

J- The 2nd amendment is a key part of our society. People should be able to defend their homes from those who mean to do them harm. But you don't need an M-16, bazooka, or M1-A1 tank to defend yourself; that's just stupidly excessive. Besides just being not necessary, law enforcement is made impotent simply by the fact that the criminals will have bigger guns than they do.

B- I totally agree with Gun Control. I mean we need to have a firm hold on our firearms. Seriously, one-handed shooting is simply not safe. To achieve true control over your gun, you need to use both hands to get that great kill shot.

Has the Crossfire got you riled up?

Write a letter to the Editor and express YOUR opinions in the Mouth of the River.

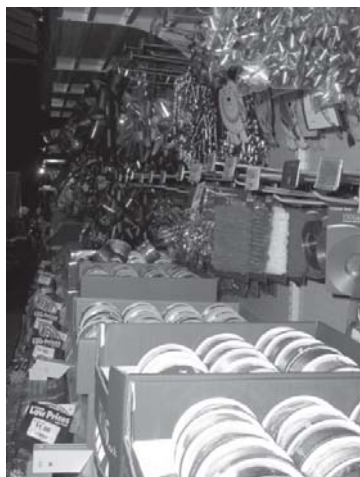
Submit to Mrs. Kucera



Op-Ed

Where's Your Holiday Spirit?

Hayley
Janelle Op-Ed Writer



There shouldn't be a short supply of holiday ribbons and bows this Christmas!



Fake Christmas trees come in all shapes and sizes this year!



Scare away your neighbors with this 8-foot-tall Grinch and Max inflatable.



I don't remember blue and purple teddy bears ever being part of holiday decorating, but sure, buy a teddy bear and get excited about the holidays!



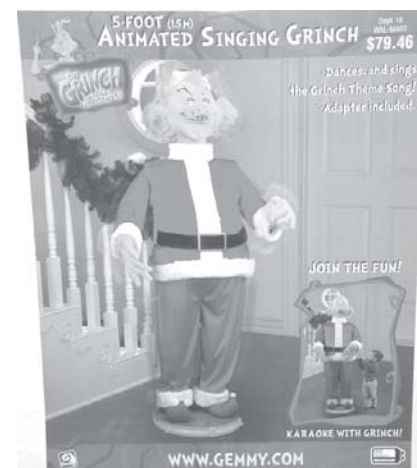
No need to make snowman this year! Just buy this inflatable snowmen family display and your all set!



Make sure Santa knows where you live and purchase this massive Santa statue.



I'm sure that every family in Canney farms will win their holiday decorating contest with enough of these plastic lawn ornaments.



Sing along with Karaoke Grinch!



Make your front yard a full display of the Nativity scene, or you could just have a couple of random farm animals.

To find these and many other holiday decorations shop your local Wal-Mart.



Dear Editors,

In the Oyster River Natural Area (ORNA), plant diversity is at stake. Plants cannot fight for themselves, and there is proof that the plants are being pushed out by an invasive species called the Burning Bush.

Biodiversity is the diversity of life in an environment as indicated by numbers of different species of plants and animals in a given area. But why is it important? It is important because an environment rich in species diversity is an indicator of a healthy and balance ecosystem. The problem with invasive species, such as burning bush, is that they are capable of decreasing biodiversity and replace native species in a given area. In ORNA, not only the plants but also the wild life that depends on vegetation is being pushed out.

When asked if she considers biodiversity important, Irina Trubetskova, who has a PhD in Biology, answered, "Of course, it is important. Biodiversity is embodied into the net of life on this planet." Quoting Vladimir Vernadsky, author of *Theory of the Biosphere* (1930), Trubetskova stated, "'There is nothing large or small in nature.'" She went on to explain that what [Vernadsky] meant was that every small component of the net of life is important because everything is

interrelated, interconnected, and interdependent.

Burning Bush can be identified as a bush with scarlet-colored leaves in the autumn. It has bark that is a gray-brown color with stems that have 2-4 prominent, corky wings. Another easily-seen characteristic is its red, long berries. Most people do not even know that it is invasive and they use it as an ornamental shrub for landscaping purposes. It grows on roadsides and is found decorating many gardens. It has even been planted on ORHS grounds near several of the school entrances. Does our school community know this "invasion" is happening, or what the potential results could be? What does the faculty think? Mrs. Wotton knows of the current concern. She believes that "everything there is in nature is there for a reason. It works together." She is disappointed that landscaping companies are still offering burning bush, and would love to see someone come in and remove them. She then stressed that the removal of these invasive plants might be a good student run project. Mr. Evans, who used to be a science teacher, agrees that biodiversity is very important. However, Mr. Evans suggested that it is important to have all the facts before proceeding with action. "You have to know the problems the invasive is causing, and

whether it is an issue."

But it is an issue! In fact, the Invasive Species of New Hampshire will implement a ban on the sale of burning bush beginning in January 2007.

Mr. Evans also commented that this issue has an important financial aspect. "An important question is who's going to pay for the removal of the plant?" he said. The financial part is very important; it determines if we should just leave the problem and deal with it later. The financial component is a huge factor in every aspect of nature, because economy always blends into environmental projects.

Although burning bush is an attractive and frequently used decorative plant, it causes huge problems in the natural diversity found in the ORNA. Even though this is a complex issue that balances ecological and financial aspects, it needs to be considered further by the entire ORHS community. Some may suggest removing burning bush from around the school, while others may suggest leaving them and seeing what happens. It is quite possible that the removal of these bushes will not solve the ecological problems found in ORNA, but it would provide a strong message to our community...we care about the health of Oyster River Natural Area.

Ben Novak, Taylor Salas, and Liza Minko

Help me with this one, I am a bit perplexed. Why there is this belief held by the minority that Teen Drinking is inevitable? That is a self-fulfilling prophecy. I have to tell you it does not have to be, and for most teens it is not.

I meet with ORHS students daily providing various support services. It is truly an honor working with your age group. You are incredible teachers simply by the virtue of who you are. I learn so much from those who cross my path and I thank you for that.

The students at ORHS have the ability in supporting one another in making choices that are safe and healthy. You can make a difference starting with the choices you make for yourself. It is amazing how positive self care can be contagious.

Stop buying into the myths. I know that if I had not seperated the myths from the facts I would not be working with your age group. There is a perception out there by some, that teenagers are trouble makers and that they just do not care. Well I am pleased to say, that perception is inaccurate. You are a generation with so much to offer. So I hope you will empower yourselves by destroying the myths. You are all way too intelligent to allow the minority to dictate your beliefs. -Fondly, Karin Goscinski-Breton Substance Abuse Counselor

Dear MOR Editor,

I was very disappointed with the "Oyster Rumor" article in the last issue of Mouth of the River. Skimming through the hilarious yet obviously untrue rumors (Mr. Evans and Mrs. Wotton getting married? John Eustace shopping at Goodwill?), I stopped dead when I came across the words *Oyster River Dance Team*. The rumor read "the Dance Team has talent, and is necessary."

As a member and choreographer on the Dance Team fro all three years of its existence, I am upset that a comment such as this would be printed in MOR.

The Dance Team is a serious club that practices five + hours a week, performs at multiple basket-ball halftime shows, and recently competed in the New England cheer and dance competition.

This comment was insulting to the team and detracted from the respect that we have gained over the past years. I would hope that the MOR understands that the Dance Team is a serious dedicated group of individuals and deserves to be treated as such. --- Sincerely, Laura Peters.

The Real Thanksgiving - Editorial

As the holiday of giving thanks draws near, we remember special times with our families. The annual passing of gourmet food around the table, the sharing of stories and laughter, and the enjoyment this annual gathering brings. These perfect Thanksgiving images are ever so present...until we step back and snap into reality. Not all celebrations are "Brady Bunch golden". We remember times such as when in a pinch for a turkey, Celie's father interrupted his morning coffee break to shoot one of the wild birds roaming in the field. And how can we forget the time when Sophie's parents, who were responsible for cooking the bird that year, roasted the turkey without taking the bag of giblets out of it. Improvising, they scooped out the melted plastic and served the turkey up...no one found out.

Many consider a Thanksgiving feast to include sweet potatoes covered in marshmallows, pumpkin pie, and, most importantly, the turkey. Sadly, Sophie checked most of those foods off of her list when she turned vegan freshman year. It was a struggle for her family the first year. Why couldn't she eat the turkey that everyone had worked so hard to prepare? But it became a diet that her family eventually embraced, making most of their dishes (minus the turkey) without the butter or milk. They even concocted a tofu-pumpkin pie-it was a hit!

No one but the Harris clan can appreciate having a greater selection of birthday cake on the Thanksgiving table than the number of side dishes that accompany the turkey and gravy feast. For them, a beloved grandfather's 80th birthday takes priority. And Thanksgiving is not complete without a full-bellied audience oohing and ahing over Uncle Eric's fireworks display. In the Harris household, politics get set aside even if that means that the conservatives and liberals of the family are left biting their tongues. The sense of giving thanks for them means not letting anything get in the way of their family peace.

It is easy to emulate for the Kodak moments we see on TV, but in this fashion no memories would stand out. Maybe the more non-photogenic events are what make holidays our own. This season don't ignore the quiriness of your family or the unconventional nature of your celebration. In the end those are the times you will cherish the most. So bring on the fireworks and don't forget to try the tofurkey! --- Sophie Valena and Celie Harris

Brian Seymour
Op-Ed Writer

Let me tell you a little story about November 2, 2004. At around 8:15 AM, three very handsome men (particularly the youngest), entered the Oyster River High School gymnasium. These three men represented three successive generations of the Seymour family. These three men all entered that gymnasium with a common goal... to see to it that the right man be re-elected to the Presidency of the United States.

As many of you probably know (if you don't I suggest you seek some professional help...or buy a TV), on November 2, 2004, the President won an outstanding victory against his opponent Senator John Kerry. This Op-Ed writer happens to know because he remained awake on election night until around 3:30 AM, forcing him to...omit...the following school day. I'm sorry, teachers, but the whole political thing really is that important to me.

There are several factors to this election that have absolutely delighted me. First, and foremost, is the fact that the right man got the job. President Bush is a true leader, and I really believe that as President, he will be able to keep us safe, and bridge the gap between the great divide that is the current day

Best Tuesday Ever



Senior Doug Wilcox casting his vote on Election Day.

United States. And hey, who knows, maybe he'll learn to speak better in public...anything's possible.

Another thing that I'm happy about is that the President received a majority of the popular vote, 51% to 48% (foxnews.com). Now I know the news has been raving about this, but I'll remind you again, the last person to do that was Bush senior back in 1988. This majority victory really serves to seal the deal and show that a great deal of our

nation supports our President.

The turnout of this election was another thing that really helped to enthuse me, especially because in the end, unlike most predictions, it helped the President. According to CNN.com, approximately 115,000,000 people voted in this election, which is roughly 10,000,000 more than in 2000. This huge voter turnout definitively helped reassure me that the American people actually care about what goes on in their government.

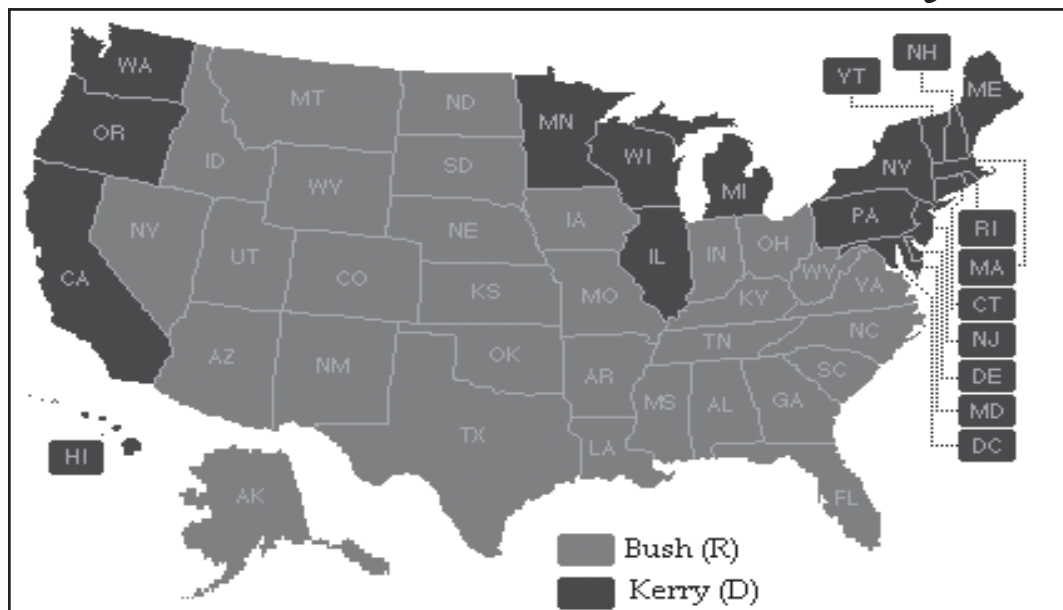
Now, this next thing may shock many of you, but bear with me. I respect Sen. Kerry very much for what he did at the conclusion of this election. I think that he saw that the number of provisional ballots available in Ohio was not enough to overturn that state's 20 electoral votes in his favor, and gracefully stepped down. I also respect his and Sen. Edwards' belief that all the votes should be counted. I completely agree with them and I

think that the election officials, to the best of their ability, counted all votes, and that we Republicans had one hell of an election.

To close, I would like to congratulate both President Bush and Senator Kerry, as well as all those involved in their campaigns. I think that they all worked extremely hard and that both sides did an excellent job competing for this election. I also believe that under the President's leadership, these next four years will be some of the greatest that America has ever had.

(image courtesy of cnn.com)

Election Day Results



Candidate	Vote #	Vote %	Electoral Votes	# of States
Bush	59,459,765	51%	286	31
Kerry	55,949,407	48%	252	19
Nader	400,706	1%	0	0

Senate

Party	Number	Gain
Republican	55	4
Democrat	44	-4
Independent	1	0

House of Representatives

Party	Number	Gain
Republican	231	4
Democrat	200	-3
Independent	1	0
3 are as of now undecided, 435 total		

Sports

ORHS Boys' Basketball: The Year to be here



Eliot Jones
Sports Writer

"We got big plans this year," says junior guard Rick Laughton confidently. Confidence seems to be an over whelming attitude for ORHS Boys Varsity basketball players this year. With a new gym in place and a team with the deepest of depth charts you would be a fool to question their potential.

Last season the team was lead by senior co-captains, Zach Simmons and Danny Lynch, both who took on a leadership role for the team. With them gone, this leaves room for all the juniors on the team to step up. One problem, last year there was only one lone junior on the varsity squad, that junior was Zach Nichols. "I got big shoes to fill, but I feel good about this season, I have talent in any direction I look," comments Nichols on leading the team. Though it seems Nichols might be alone, Senior Alex Belaidi is projected to have a prominent role in

this team as well. With a successful summer at Providence team camp, word is out that Belaidi might just be running the back court for the Bobcats this year.



Zach Nichols throwing down

Last years team had a ridiculous amount of talent in the sophomore class, leaving this year's team with some experienced juniors. With returning players such as Rick Laughton, Cy Watson, Matt Tirell, Steven Maynard, and Jeff Young, the juniors will have no problem seeing court time this season. "We lost a lot of big threats (Simmons, Lynch) but this year we've all improved and will

step up our game, and do our best to fill the roles of these players, amen," says Junior Cy Watson.

The dynamics of the team seem to have all the right ingredients to the recipe: height, speed, handle, and of course, the 3 point shot. The height lies in Center Cy Watson and PF Zach Nichols, both whom are known for sheer dominance on the offense glass. If both can stay healthy and put up legitimate numbers, you should see the Cats have no problem with a low post offense. In the back court this year you'll see players such as Laughton, Belaidi and Young, all who are quick and have mastered the 3 point shot. If the guards can get open, fans can expect a lot of "tees for threes" from this trio.

"They're a talented group of guys that have been playing together for a long time. Combined with the senior leadership and talent, it will be tough to stop them in Class I," said former ORHS varsity captain Zach Simmons. This season seems like the season we have all been anticipating, the season where they complete the run. If everyone stays healthy and plays up to their potential there's no reason not to believe the hype. As Young and Watson put it "we gon' bring home the chip."

The Projected 5...



Point Guard- Alex Belaidi



Shooting Guard- Rick Laughton



Small Forward- Matt Tirrell



Center- Cy Watson



Power Forward- Zach Nichols



Guard- Jeff Young



Center- Carleton Hanson



Forward- Steve Maynard



November 23, 2004

Sports

Football or the Lack There Of

Pat O'Keefe

Sports Writer

"HUT HUT HIKE!" The quarterback's high pitched voice squeaked as he ran back into the classic play, "blue twenty two." The crowd's energy intensified his bitter desire to win the game. The state championship game. The whole school watched his every move, he could feel the pressure, and taste the anticipation hanging above his head in the air... High school football. Something amazing which unifies schools across the country, the American pastime, but why does Oyster River, a school which holds pride in sports, lack this phenomenal athletic event?



Courtesy of www.sdast.edu

High School Quarterback preps for upcoming throw

The students of ORHS have come up with their own reasons for the extreme lack of this great game. Some people like Cy Watson have heard "that some kid died a long time ago." Junior Sam Morrill got it right when she said that "It's an expensive sport, and we don't have any place to put a huge football field." According to Mr. Lafferty the issues are "space and money."

The Oyster River Field team, lead by, Ms. McPhee has been searching the proximities of Oyster River High school for available land big enough to satisfy the space needed for two full size football fields...and off school grounds parking. this is too long, can you reword it so it's either 2 sentences or a bit shorter? also, what is the OR field team? Right now the prices of land in the district are sky high. "Land in Durham is going for an arm and a leg " said principal Don Lafferty. One example of the high priced plots is a multi-acre parcel in Madbury that was looked at. The owner of the land has set an asking price for a little over \$1 million.

In a town council meeting Mr. Lafferty brought up the fact that the school would like to start up a football program. Lafferty presented the typed up report

regarding field space, funding, and feeder programs. The packet thoroughly looks at everything that we would need to spend money on including coach's fees, player equipment, and other expenses.. Not including all of the new field space that would need to be bought the final cost comes to \$62,122.15.

Some of you might be wondering, why don't we just put some posts up on one of the fields we

already have? That unfortunately is not an option. According to Lafferty's report "fall sports consist of six soccer teams and two field hockey teams. Varsity field hockey and J.V. field hockey share one field, while the six soccer teams share two fields. The overuse of these fields would not permit available space for a football program." Also, to do this right we would not only need one new field, we

would need two. It is necessary to have one field for practice, and the other for games.

In the end, the chances of us getting a football team in the near future are slim. The desire is there, but not the space or

funding. Now that the school board has heard the school's plea, hopefully they will take another look at getting it sometime in upcoming years. Upper-classman, don't hold your breath. But to all you underclassman, keep pushing and maybe, just maybe your wishes will come true.



Courtesy of www.gulfbrook.org

Opposing High School mid football practice

ORHS Soccer: The Conclusion

Zach Nichols

Sports Writer

Once again Oyster River High School's favorite fall past time is complete. Another year finished at Stellos Stadium in Nashua.

The boys' soccer team lost a hard fought 2-0 game to the eventual champion Hollis-Brookline, in the semi-finals. With both goals coming from head balls off of free kicks, the two teams were very evenly matched.

The girls' soccer team lost a sudden death overtime thriller to rival Hanover, 1-0 in the state finals.

This year's senior class of boys' and girls' soccer players have all performed exceptionally well over the course of their high school careers. The boys'

team won three state championships over four years, including an undefeated season. The girls'

team also did an outstanding job over their four years of high school, making it at least to the semi-finals each year. Although things didn't turn out as they had

wished, the boys' soccer team still thinks fondly



OR' Sam Brown tackles opponent



OR's Oliva Mullin streaks down field

Continued on page 35...

Athlete Props

Pat O’Keefe
Sports Writer



Andy Lebarge- Lebarge, also a swimmer, has floated to the top in her sport. Like Wensman she participates in the New England’s at Harvard every year, and finished in the top five in the state for 100 fly & 100 free.



Keese- Game winner vs. Bow, “heck yeah, you my boy.” -Dan Sharbaugh.



Kelly Bingham- Senior Kelly Bingham participated in her first fencing competition this past weekend. Kelly has been taking lessons at the Seacoast Fencing Club in Dover for almost a year. Bingham’s competition was in Manchester and was made up of 26 competitors, she made it to the second round, props!



Jesse Schram- Not many students join a varsity team freshman year, let alone Oyster River’s three-peat state champ soccer team. Just being on the team wasn’t enough for Schram. As a freshman he not only made varsity, he had the assist for the game winning goal in the state championship game against Hollis-Brookline. Schram hasn’t let up going into his sophomore and junior year. This year alone he has 11 assists, props!

Other Props...

Sam Wensman: Sophomore Sam Wensman is an amazing swimmer. At the moment Sam holds the 100m breast stroke record in the high school. He also competes in the New England’s every year which is a huge swimming competition held at Harvard University. All of this coming from a sophomore means even more records in the future, props!

Dan and Matt’s lucky Rows- Have fun at Stello’s

Girls’ Volleyball Team- Saturday, October 30th the girls’ volleyball team beat Laconia to advance to the semi-finals, something that the team has not been able to do for five years. Props!



The Red Sox- No the Red Sox do not go to ORHS, but this is completely necessary. The Red Sox nation has finally been liberated. World Series champions 2004, props!



Sarah Richards and Abbie Wade- Two girls from each Class I team are selected to play and represent their school in the annual Senior Classic tournament. Both of these amazing players let their talent show in front

The World Series: The Curse is Reversed

Zach Nichols

Sports
Writer

The Boston Red Sox are World Series champions. It sounds funny doesn't it? The last time that statement was made, America was at war, there was a flu epidemic ravaging the world, and we had a liberal president. The year was 1918. Well, two out of three isn't bad. This year's Red Sox team does hold a few similarities to the championship team of 86 years ago. Both teams were led by Hall of Fame caliber pitchers: Babe Ruth 1918, Curt Schilling and Pedro Martinez in 2004. Both teams had great hitting outfielders: Harry Hooper in 1918 and Manny Ramirez in 2004.

The 2004 team did accomplish a few things the 1918 couldn't. They came back from three games to none to beat their greatest rival in a best of seven series. It was the first time in playoff history that a team down three games to none has come back to win the series. They did sweep the World Series against the team with the best record in major league baseball and they did beat an 86 year old curse laid down by the greatest baseball player in history (sorry Barry, The Babe ate hot dogs, not steroids).

Who else do the Red Sox owe thanks too? Some would say thanks Gary Sheffield for the vote of confidence. "They're a walking disaster. They act like they're tough, how they care so much about winning, but it's all a front. They're just a bunch of characters." So Gary,

how does it feel to be beaten by walking disaster?

So what set the Red Sox above the competition? Some Red Sox fans credit the victory to some pretty strange things. "Because of Pedro's little dwarf friend, who brought them magical luck," said

senior Tim O'Keefe, brother of Pat. Junior Chelsea Evans gives credit for the victory to "Johnny Damon and his hair." While David Ortiz and Manny Ramirez gave a world class show hitting third and fourth in the order, and while Pedro Martinez and Curt Schilling were fantastic, this victory isn't a

result of only the superstars. Every team in the playoffs has superstars. What set the Sox apart was depth.

The Red Sox showed the best bullpen in the playoffs, from Bronson Arroyo and Curtis Leskanic in long relief, to Alan Embree and Mike Timlin setting up closer Keith Foulke. The Sox bullpen was amazing. Spot starter Derek Lowe also came up huge for Boston. "Derek Lowe, even though he didn't have a great season was great in the playoffs," said Junior Marisa Daniels.

The Sox had game saving hits from role players, like Mark Bellhorn and Bill Mueller against the Yankees. Dave Roberts' base running off the bench may have saved the Red

Sox against the Yankees with his ability to steal a base and get into the pitcher's head in the late

innings. "Dave Roberts is my hero, whenever he plays he makes a big difference," said Sophomore Liza Behrendt.

The Red Sox were able to bring in late inning defensive replacements like Gabe Kapler in the outfield, and Gold Glove Award Winners Pokey Reese and Doug Mientkiewicz at first and second base. Late inning defensive replacements were important, because as juniors Rick Loughton and Mouse Young put it, "Manny ain't got time for defense."

Another person getting credit for the Red Sox victory, is rookie manager Terry Francona. After a

ALCS loss last season that that many credit to then manager Grady Little, Sox fans like Sophomore Kristen Allen credit Francona. "Francona did really well."

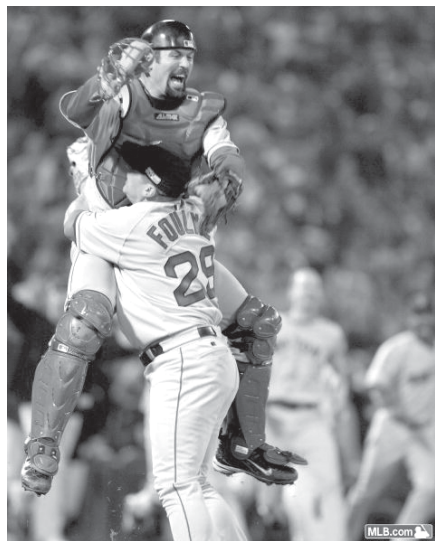
This year's Boston Red Sox team was deeper and more versatile than any Red Sox fans have seen before, and that's what made the difference.

So Sox fans, live it up for a few months. Buy your



Photos courtesy of Redsox.com

Sox celebrate their first World Series in 86 years



Foulke and Varitek celebrate



WS MVP Manny Ramirez

Upcoming Games...

Alumni Games: Basketball

Boys - November 26th at 7:00pm

Girls - November 24th at 7:00pm

Home Openers: Basketball

12/14- Hollis Brookline- 7:00pm

11/30- Coe Brown- 7:00pm

Home Opener Hockey:

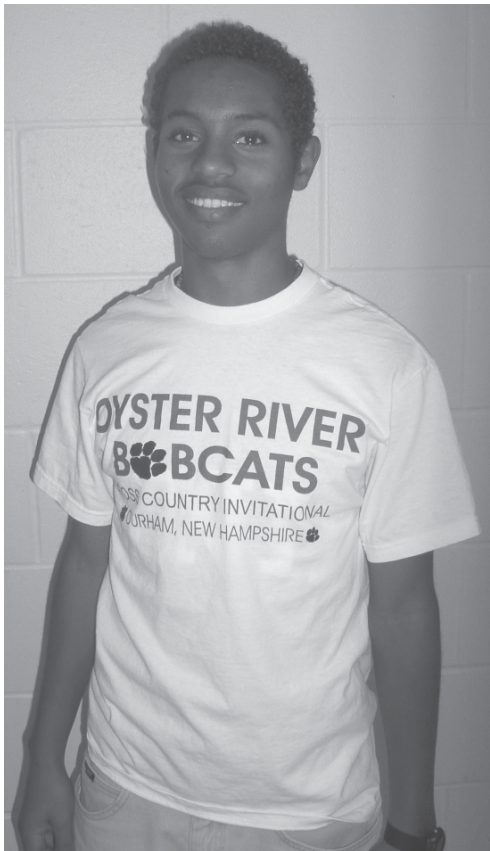
12/15 at Dover: 7:15pm



MOR - Athlete of the Month

Eliot Jones

Sports Writer



Eyob looking fast...as usual

Eyob was a crucial member of the boys’ Cross Country Team. At the Meet of Champions Eyob placed first or second in each race he ran. He got course records at Coe-Brown, Kingswood and holds the record at our very own Bobcat Invitational.

Recently at a race at Derryfield Park in Manchester Eyob was competing with a fellow Ethiopian when he noticed that his competitor was about to go the wrong way. He told the first place runner in an Ehtiopian dialect that he was going the wrong way. The kid quickly got back on course and ended up winning the race. This is an impressive show of sportsmanship from one of OR’s star athletes. Eyob was also second in class I and with teammate James Noronha and the girls Cross Country team will be attending New Englands.



Abbie “flabs” Wade posses in ready possession

Abbie Wade had a great season on the ORHS Field Hockey Team. She played in the Midfield and was a prime play maker for the team. At season’s end Abbie and Teamate Sarah Richards were chosen for a senior classic game where 2 players from each team compete for a chance at being on the all state Field Hockey Team. As result of the classic game Abbie was chosen for first team All-state field hockey along with teammate Sarah Richards and Megan Wyand, who got second team all-state.

Name: Abbie Wade

Nickname: Abbs, Abbslider, Wadeupasecond

Team: ORHS Girls Varsity field hockey

Favorite Athlete: Hideki Matsui

Favorite ORHS Athlete: Megan Wyand

Best High School sports memory: Winning the one and only game of last year’s softball season

Favorite Food: Bread

Lasting Memories from this season: When all the seniors on the team got to start in the senior game

3 Adjectives that describe yourself: Really funny, extremely pretty and very cool

Freshmen Prospect: Matt Campbell

If you could be a super hero, who would you be? Wonder Woman, because she’s so wonderful

Name: Eyob Eyualem

Nickname: “Yobe”

Team: ORHS Cross Country

Favorite Athlete: Halie Gebre Selassie

Favorite ORHS Athlete: Jesse Schram

Best High School sports memory: Putting powder and water in girl’s hair at cross country camp

Favorite Food: Pizza

If you could be a super hero, who would you be? Superman

3 Adjectives that describe yourself: Fast, fast and fast

Freshmen Prospect: No comment

Lasting Memories from this season: After the dance we went to bed at 12:30 and woke up at 6 and I got my best time that race.



The New Gym

Eliot Jones

Sports
Writer

With glistening new floors, brand new basketball hoops, and an update from weight closet to weight room, the new gym is some sight. The new gymnasium is a better and bigger place for assemblies, gym classes and, of course, a great place for Basketball and Volleyball games. The new gym has already paid off when hosting guest speakers and having various school wide assemblies. Even though it was an expensive item, it seems that it was worth the investment.

According to Business Administrator Blaine Cox, the total cost of the gym was \$3,613,419. The construction project took a total of 12 months to complete, with only one minor setback. During construction, with the increased humidity, the



The new bigger gym looking shiny

areas under the floorboards started to dip and warp a bit. With some minor changes by the construction crew, the problem was easily resolved.

The administration has big hopes for the new gym, saying it will pay off in terms of sports and school wide events. They hope they can have multiple PE classes going on during the day as well as more practice space provided after school instead of having all teams share one small space. With assemblies, the new bleachers can now fit the

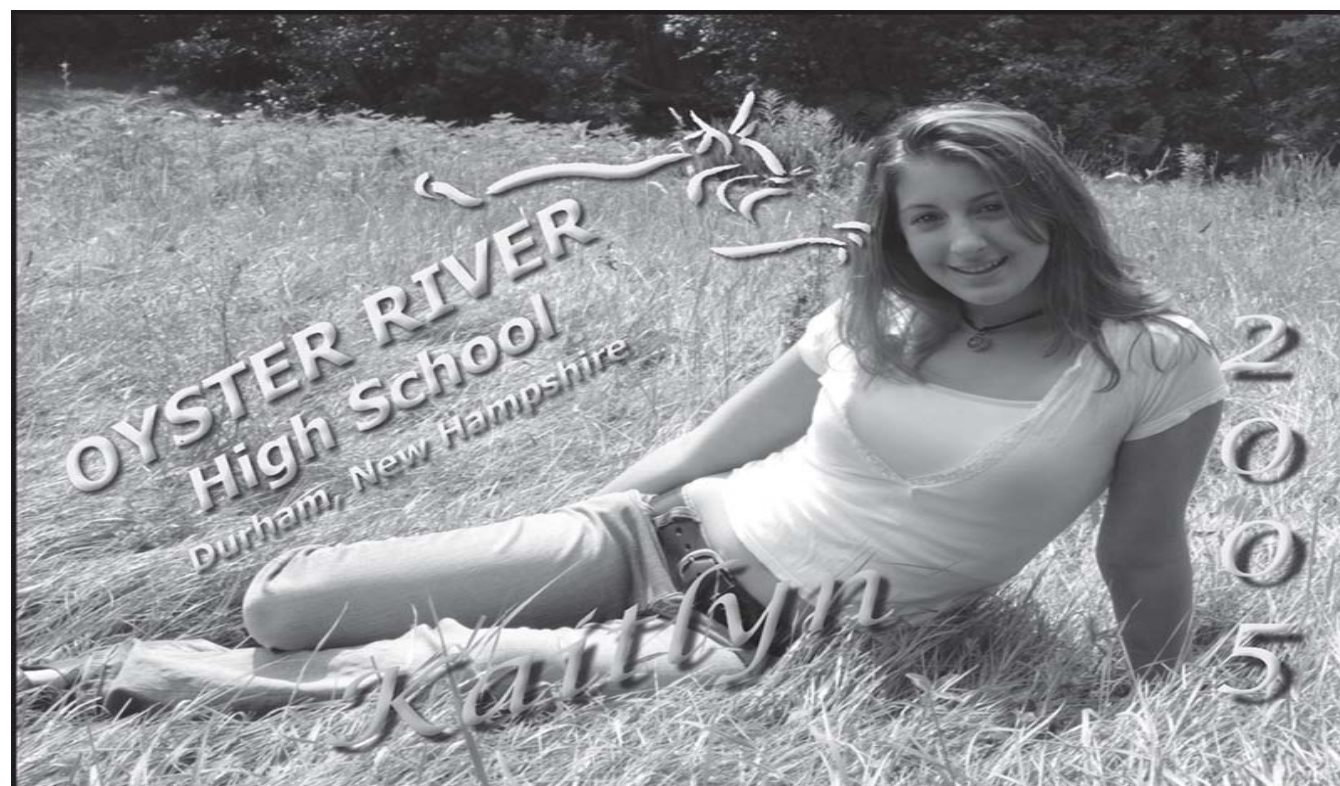
whole school in them. Last year during assemblies you may have noticed people sitting against the walls and standing up, that will no longer be an issue this year.

The administration is also very satisfied with the amount of storage space with the new gym. They

can now have much more equipment and have adequate room for it. This will hopefully bring in higher quality and better equipment for PE classes and athletics. "I like the fact that the gym has a new set of locker rooms, bigger bathrooms, various entrances, a new ticket booth and concession stand, and most of the new event parking. It makes you feel like you're showing up for an event when entering!" says Assistant Principal Sarah Wotton. It seems the list is endless with new features of the new gym.

"I really enjoy the atmosphere of the old gym, but the quality of the new gym is better," says junior basketball player Cy Watson. This is one of the fears of the new gym; that's its too big. Adapting to the atmosphere might take time. Also, there is a new structure to the bleachers. In the last gym they had bleachers on both sides of the court letting opposing fans face each other. In the new gym, you have what people are calling "Coe-Brown" style bleachers: one big tower of bleachers where the home and away fans share the seats. "It's going to be awkward, I'll be sitting next to the enemy," said fan Jimmy Long. Though there is some negativity about the new gym it seems that the pros outweigh the cons.

The new gym is going to be a valued asset to ORHS for decades to come. It seems there are few negative opinions of the gym though you can expect that people may have to adjust to a bigger space. The total cost of the new school was \$22,706,711, making the new gym a small portion of that money. It's exciting to have a new gym to look forward to, and students should expect it to be used often throughout the year.



Candace Pratt

PHOTOGRAPHY
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142 Concord Rd * Lee * NH * 03824

Kaitlyn: "Candace does a great job, the atmosphere is friendly and relaxing, I loved all the pictures." Mom: "Her work is excellent, I wouldn't go anywhere else!" Beth: "My session with Candace was fun. Finally pictures that look like me, and show my personality. I recommend everyone have their senior portraits created by Candace. She takes the time to get pictures that are natural and fun!" Mom: "Having Candace take your portraits is everything you could ever want in a photography studio."

More Fun, More Choices
Even camera-shy seniors have fun and look good. Candace will capture your personality. I guarantee you will be Completely satisfied.

Candace

Backyard Skiing

Dan Sharbaugh

Sports
Writer

As fall sports wind down at Oyster River, most athletes are starting to take a break and relax after school with friends. They just watch movies, or hang out downtown. But some of the most extreme and hardcore athletes in the school are speeding up the process of Mother Nature so they can start skiing before the natural snow comes.

Oyster River has figured out a way to get around the lack of snow and low temperature. Once or twice a week, a group of Oyster River students drive down to the Dover Ice hockey arena right across from Philbricks Sports. They pull around back where the Zamboni machine will release all the ice shavings from the rink. The snow is loaded up into the back of the truck and transported back to Durham where they start the ski session.

Now, this isn't your Grandma's old style of skiing. Not any of that cruising down the mountain carving and turning in and out. This new style has re-defined skiing as we know it. It is called "jibbing," which is pretty much skiing with jumps and rails on the run.

A new form of skis have been invented for this style of skiing. They're called twin-tips and have curves at both ends of the skis so you can ski backwards with ease.

The group pulls up to their back yard and starts to unload the snow. They don't have that much snow, considering it was just one truck load, but it is enough to set up a run. The snow is spread out over the grass and whatever has been set up for

the jump in front of the rail. "It isn't really like, actual skiing. But it gets us ready for the ski season so we are all ready to hit up some rails," said James Cody, a senior at Oyster River High School.

Some people may be asking themselves "Why don't they just wait for ski season to come around and go to an actual mountain?" Look at it as a soccer player might look at their season. Do they wait until soccer tryouts to grab a ball and get in



Gnarly Ski Photo - www.newschoollers.com

shape?

"If anyone thinks that what we are doing is lame then they are stupid. It's not lame at all, IT'S AWESOME!!!" James Cody says to the people who may question what they are doing.

"I freakin' love skiing in the fall!! It's so chill skiing in like shorts and t-shirts and all that good stuff," Jamie Farrell a senior at Oyster River high school stated. "I mean, the skiing isn't really that great but it's just fun being out there and not

having to take a chairlift or anything."

There is one other major advantage for skiing in your backyard: you can pad your falling. It isn't a bad idea to line the bottom of the rail or bench you may be "grinding" with a bunch of mattresses or pillows from your house for a little extra padding, just in case. "Last year we had nothing underneath the rail so I fell flat on my face in the dirt. It sucked so bad!" Cody recalls from his past.

The preseason skiing trend seems to be spreading throughout all of Durham. The other day in downtown Durham a group of students had a jump set up right before a handrail in front of the Student Union.

According to Cody, there is one other way that you can do the preseason ski thing if you don't mind spending a little bit of money. "There is this astro-turf stuff you can get at like, Home Depot or something that you can actually ride pretty easily. I just don't have the money to get it yet."

The latest addition to the backyard is a brand new PVC pipe rail. Cody transported the rail from Ben Johnson's house on top of his car and drove it home. The rail is 15' long and about 4 feet high. "It's a pretty sick rail. I can't wait to session it in a few days," Cody commented.

There are actual mountains in New Hampshire that are setting up pre-season parks. They are a little bit pricey but what you are paying for is some of the most respected terrain parks in the country. For \$35 you can ski from 9a.m - 4 p.m. If you aren't interested in doing rails then it's not too beneficial; there isn't enough snow to set up jumps yet.

Skiing can be a great experience, or a very painful one. The best way to keep yourself from getting hurt is practice. So if you have the chance to get some snow from your local hockey rink, and can set something up in the back yard, it might be easier

...ORHS Soccer: The Conclusion continued from pg 30

about their season. "It was definitely a chill season, we had good times," said Senior midfielder Jamie Farrell. "It's just too bad that..." He concluded regarding the outcome of the team's season.

Junior midfielder Jesse Schram agrees with Farrell, stating, "The season was sick. We had a good team. Good times, they're all my boys." Despite some sadness, Schram manages to keep a sense of humor about the sport he loves, "I was hoping to make it to the finals, but we ain't got time."

For the girls' team, Junior midfielder Sarah Roeder also looks back on her

season positively. "We exceeded our expectations. We weren't even predicted to get by St. Thomas in the quarter-finals," said Roeder. She continued to say, "We would have won if we had Jess Roeder."

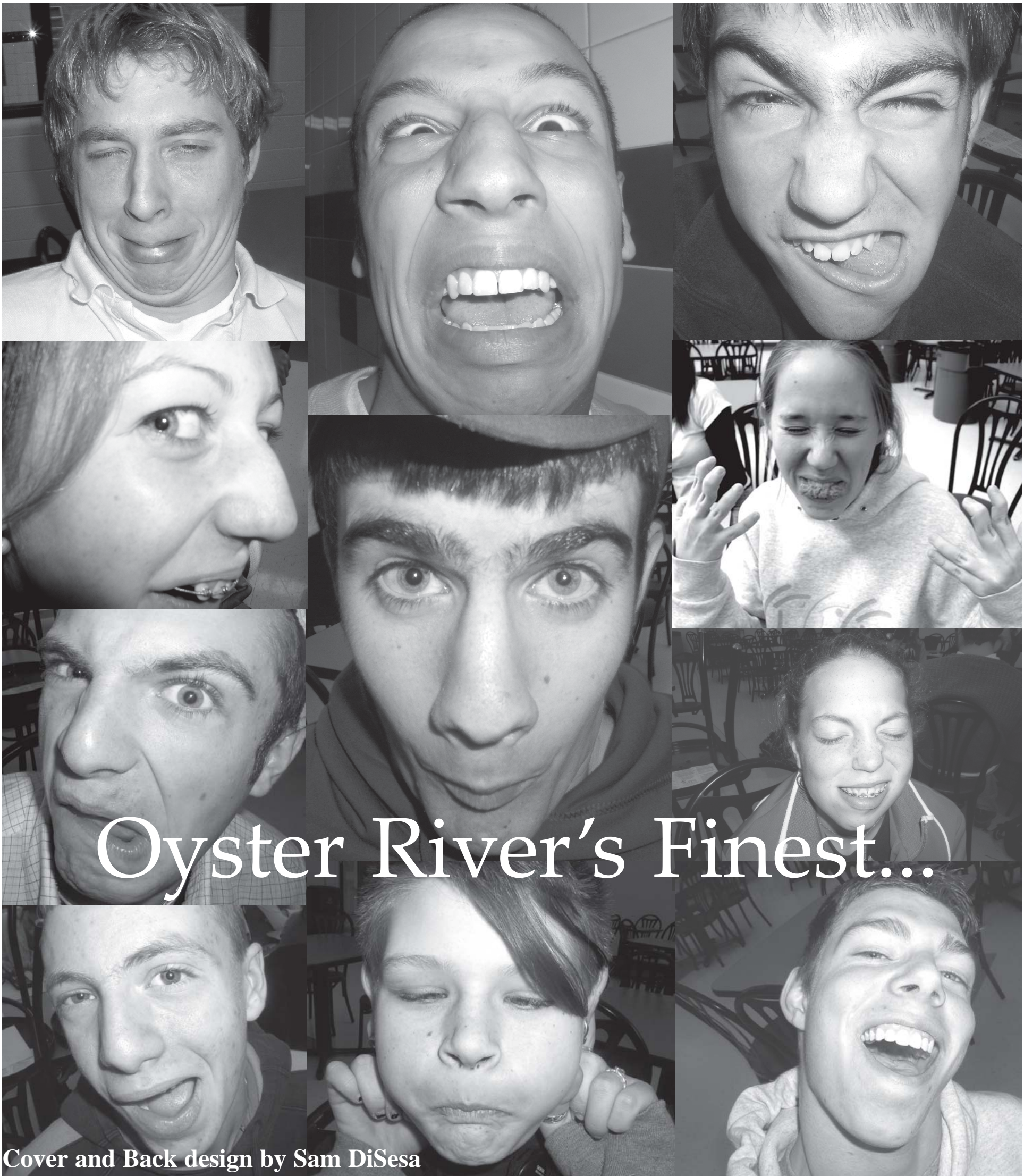


Oyster River Junior Brie Gonnet battles for the ball

owe thanks to our two outstanding soccer teams for that. With no soccer action for another year however, what is a fan to do now? Well, alumni games are this weekend. That's right people, it's basketball season. Get ready for another wild winter of ORHS sports. Hopefully our basketball teams will each be able to live up to the high expectations left by our soccer programs. Thanks again to all the senior soccer players; it's been a blast to watch all of you compete over the past four years. You always made your school proud.

"We would have won if we had Jess Roeder"

-Sarah Roeder



Oyster River's Finest...

Cover and Back design by Sam DiSesa